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Newsbeat Special Edition

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

NEWSBEAT

PHOTO CREDITS

p. 1, Jim Pickering; p. 2, KCB-Jim Pickering, Dave Moore Park-Maria Kammerer; Glen Eden Trail-Scott Adams; p. 3, Mountain Bikers-Maria Kammerer; p. 4, Bald Eagles, Dan Brown; p. 6, Geysers, Bob Anderson; p. 7, Baltic Mine-Bob Anderson; p. 11, Bizz Johnson, Jeff Fontana; p. 12, Cosumnes-Bob Anderson; p. 14, Fitzhugh Creek, Vanne Mocilac; p. 16, Baby Tortoise-Bob Anderson; p. 17, Plant Inventory-A.J. Martin; p. 20, Cache Creek-Jim Pickering; p. 22, Patricia Foulk; p. 23, Jeff Fontana; p. 24, Geothermal plant-Sean Hagerty; p. 25, Mineral Inspectors-Bob Anderson; p. 26, Building Stone-Bob Anderson; p. 26, Searles Lake Drilling-Bob Anderson; p. 27, Hayden Hill Mine-Bob Anderson; p. 27, American Girl Mine-Sonya Cox; p. 31, Rappelling Training, Jim Pickering; p. 40, Burros-Patricia Foulk

COVER PHOTO CREDITS

1- Petroglyphs near Fort Piute in the East Mojave (Credit: Jim Pickering)

2- Visitor to Earth Day Wild Horse & Burro Adoption (Credit: Patricia Foulk)

3- Mecca Hills recreation area in San Bernardino County (Credit: Victor Caro)

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Surprise Resource Area - 916/279-6101
POB 460, 602 Cressler St, Cedarville, CA 96104
Eagle Lake Resource Area - 916/257-0456
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555 Leslie St, Ukiah, CA 95482
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Barstow Resource Area - 619/256-3591
150 Coolwater Ln, Barstow, CA 92311
El Centro Resource Area - 619/353-1060
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Palm Springs/South Coast Resource Area - 619/251-0812
63-500 Garnet Ave, N. Palm Springs, CA 92258
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Horseback riding in the East Mojave NSA

A MESSAGE FROM ED HASTEY, CALIFORNIA STATE DIRECTOR

Dear Public Land Shareholder:

With the 1990s now in full swing, we are starting to see real on-the-ground results from BLM national initiatives like Fish & Wildlife 2000 and Recreation 2000. New Back Country Byways in the California Desert and the northeast corner of the state help visitors explore the real roads less traveled and reinforce BLM's commitment to help support rural economies. Partnerships are also being forged with diverse organizations to restore fisheries, with major efforts underway on the Mattole, Susan and Trinity Rivers. In the Southern California desert, our partners continue to assist BLM in habitat restoration. Afton Canyon is one example of an area which is now drawing back wildlife not seen in years.

On another environmental front, BLM-California is continuing its efforts to work with local governments, counties, and the state on biodiversity land-use planning. One region of the state where BLM is taking a leadership role in cooperative resource management planning is the West Mojave. Partners involved in this major effort include 10 cities, 4 counties, a dozen state and federal agencies, and many private interest groups. This year, too, BLM-California worked closely with the Governor's Task Force on Geographic Information to help chart a strategy for information sharing at all levels of government.

We have prepared this special double-edition of Newsbeat as your 1992 progress report on the state of your public lands in California.

Ed Hastey

The Year in Review

KCB volunteers erect new sign for Cosumnes Preserve.

★ Continued efforts to develop a recovery strategy for the desert tortoise and to raise public awareness among Southern Californians on how they can help the official state reptile in its fight for survival and acquired 3,265 more acres of prime desert tortoise habitat

★ Received $10.4 million from the Land and Water Conservation Fund to acquire lands valuablefor outdoor recreation, wildlife habitat, and other public uses

★ Completed phase one of the West Mojave Land Tenure Adjustment, a major land transfer program to better manage sensitive resources and aid future planning for the high desert region

★ Generated $42 million in revenues, almost 90 percent from the minerals program.

★ Received $4.2 million from the California Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Recreation Commission in "Green Sticker" fees to be used for operating, maintaining and improving OHV areas on public lands

★ Worked with the Nature Conservancy, Ducks Unlimited, and others on major riparian/wetlands project near the Salton Sea at Dos Palmas and south of Sacramento at the Cosumnes River Preserve

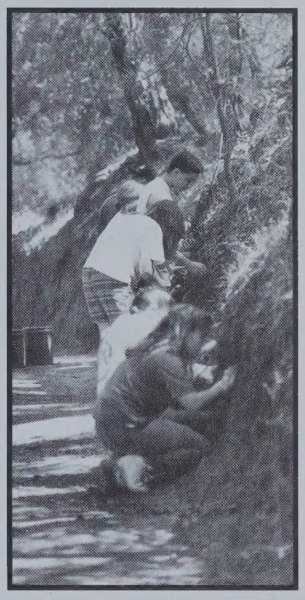
★ Evaluated 70 major projects and hundreds of smaller proposed actions for National Environmental Policy Act compliance

★ Completed exchanges totaling some 25,000 acres, gaining key properties in Modoc and Inyo counties and the West Mojave

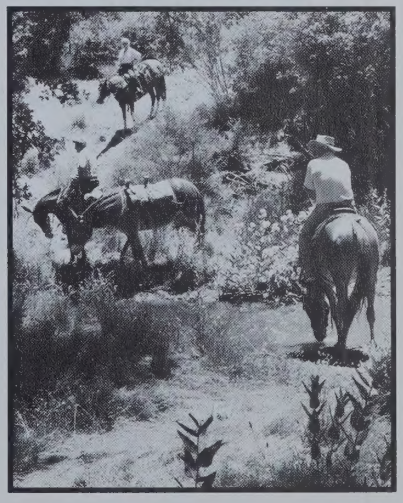
★ Hosted more than 26 million recreation visits

★ Monitored expansion of geothermal energy production from public lands, enough to supply 950,000 people, and generate $15.1 million in rents and royalties for California taxpayers.

★ Constructed wheelchair accessible facilities at Payne's Creek near the Sacramento River, the Bizz Johnson Trail outside Susanville, and Nadelos Campground in the King Range National Conservation Area along the North Coast



Planting wild strawberries to stabilize wall at Dave Moore wheelchair access trail under construction near Coloma



Horseback riding on the Glen Eden Trail in the Cow Mountain recreation area

★ Unveiled new visitors center at Hole-in-the-Wall campground in the East Mojave National Scenic Area

★ Developed a network of mountain bike trails in Inyo County with the help of the Ridgecrest Mountain Bike Club and Ridgecrest Convention and Visitors Bureau

★ Designated four Back County Byways as part of BLM's national scenic touring system

★ Held six satellite wild horse and burro adoptions, placing 766 animals, 20 percent more than were adopted in 1991

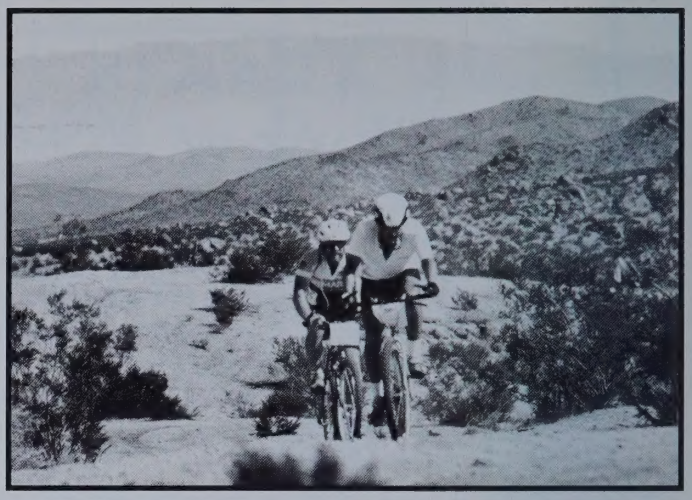
★ Received valuable assistance from more than 4,000 volunteers who contributed over 230,000 hours, valued at approximately $2.3 million

★ Worked closely with the Governor's Task Force on Geographic Information to facilitate information sharing at all levels of government

★ Undertook major habitat improvements for salmon and steelhead in the King Range and along the Trinity River

★ Managed leases producing 17 million barrels of oil and 8.5 billion cubic feet of gas, netting approximately $33 million in revenues, rents and royalties

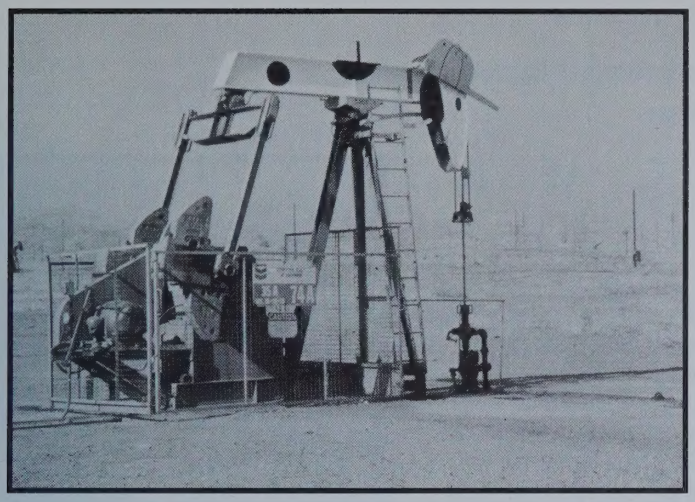
★ Eradicated more than 16,000 illegal marijuana plants, about $55 million on the street



Mountain biking near Ridgecrest

The newly-acquired Kelso Depot in the East Mojave NSA will open as a visitor center in 1995.

The Old Mojave Road in the California desert is popular with OHVers.



Drilling for oil in the San Joaquin Valley near Bakersfield

Firefighting apprentices learn the ropes

Cross-country skiing on the Bizz Johnson National Recreation Trail near Susanville

★ Regulated gold mines on public lands, which produced 796,000 ounces of gold

★ Co-sponsored the second annual Keep California Beautiful community service project at Cosumnes River Preserve

★ Managed more than 230 active sales contracts and free-use permits for extraction of sand and gravel and other common-variety minerals, valued at more than $33 million

★ Co-sponsored a winter environmental education camp in the Eastern Sierra near Bishop for Southern California high school students

★ Paid California counties over $10 million in payments in lieu of taxes

★ Celebrated California State Trail Week in the Ridgecrest Resource Area by mapping and signing historic trail

★ Sold more than 8.5 million board feet of saw-timber valued at approximately $2 million

★ Issued 1,751 special recreation permits for events like the annual Rails to Trails Festival in Susanville

★ Responded quickly to over 40 emergency hazardous waste incidents

★ Fought fires that burned 19,935 acres of BLM-managed lands

★ Successfully managed the second year of the Wildland Firefighter Apprenticeship Program to develop a culturally diverse, highly trained firefighting force

Acquisitions

With 17 million acres already on the public lands rolls for California, it may appear curious to some that BLM has an active ongoing acquisition program. But because of the generally hopscotch patterns of public-private parcels, it is critical to the success of effective management of these lands held in trust to purchase or swap land to improve management of special areas.

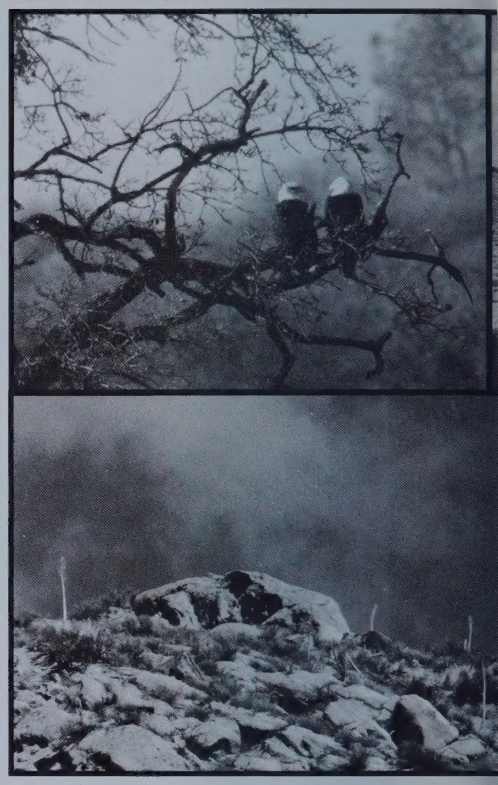
Gifts and exchanges account for many acquisitions yearly, but Congress, through the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) is often the major source of these new public lands. In 1992, BLM-California received $10.4 million from the LWCF. These monies bought land in recommended wilderness study areas (WSA), wild and scenic rivers, national conservation areas (NCA), and national scenic areas (NSA). Lands were also acquired to protect habitat for rare and endangered plants and wildlife.

The endangered desert tortoise was a big winner this year, gaining 3,265 acres of habitat in the Desert Tortoise Natural Area near California City in Kern County, the West Mojave, and finally, in the Chuckwalla Bench Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) in southern Riverside County.

Wetlands and other threatened and endangered (T&E) species benefited from the largesse of Congress in 1992 as well. Acquisitions by BLM and partners, the Nature Conservancy (TNC), Ducks Unlimited (DU) and others, added 3,500 acres to the Cosumnes River Preserve, about 20 miles south of Sacramento. The preserve is a significant link in remaining Central Valley wetlands. A century ago these wetlands were a veritable fast-food runway for migrating waterfowl. Today, less than 10 percent of them remain. Another 3,538 acres were added to the Carrizo Plain Natural Area, another BLM-TNC venture in San Luis Obispo County. Often called "California's Serengeti" because of its grassy expanse and concentration of wildlife, the natural area supplies valuable habitat for nine T&E plants and animals, including the California condor. Several ACECs gained new acreage as well: 640 acres for Morongo Canyons near Palm Springs; 467 acres for Dos Palmas/Salt Creek close to the Salton Sea; and 533 acres for San Sebastian Marsh in Imperial County.

National scenic areas in the desert benefitted from another 1,920 acres for the Santa Rosa Mountains near Palm Springs and 649 acres added to the East Mojave in eastern San Bernardino County. The East Mojave acquisitions help preserve unspoiled vistas from sites like the newly refurbished Hole-in-the-Wall campground and allow BLM to preserve the natural resources visitors return to the desert again and again to enjoy. Other special area acquisitions this year included another 188 acres for the 60,000-acre King Range NCA along the North Coast and 122 acres for the North Algodones Dunes WSA in Imperial County, and 1,280 acres through the State of California's off-highway vehicle (OHV) "Green Sticker" program to enhance the public's enjoyment of this uniquely California sport.

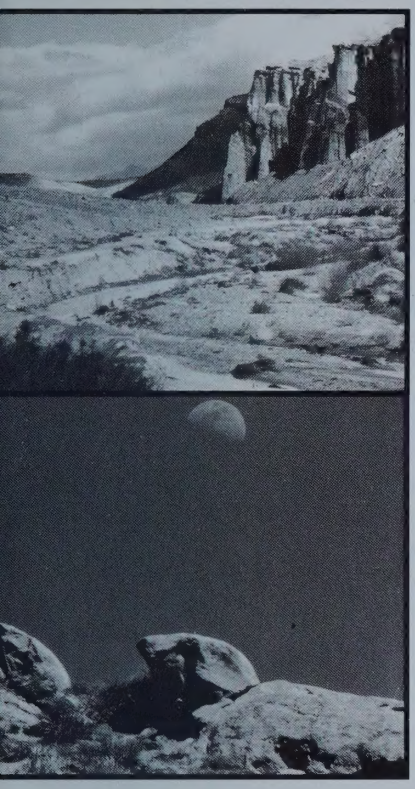
Cache Creek ACEC



Moonrise over ridge acquired in Griswold Ranch swap, San Benito County

The scenic Alabama Hills in the Eastern Sierra attract horseback riders as well as movie directors.

Amargosa Canyon in the California desert



LANDS

Hollywood took to the hills in 1992—the rust-colored Alabama Hills on public lands east of Lone Pine were used extensively by the film industry this year with 25 permits being issued. Companies from as far away as New York and Florida as well as Finland and Japan made the "hills" their background of choice. The Japanese filmed dancers on the rocks; EverReady rigged a stagecoach to flatten its neon-pink, battery-powered mascot (who—Surprise!—kept going and going. . . .); and the California Lottery staged a happy winner driving a golf chart into a picture-perfect Pacific sunset. Two companies built large sets: Miller constructed an entire saloon complete with scorpions and trained vultures perched on saguaro cacti for a beer commercial; and the feature film *Joshua Tree*—set for a spring 1993 release—with hunky action-hero Dolph Lundgren, sported a three-building set and a 50-person crew for three weeks.

This year, BLM-California issued 830 temporary land-use permits authorizing everything from movies and ads to the placement of bee hives on the public lands. Moviemakers and event marketers pay fair market value and must ensure environmental protection.

Creatively managing California's varied patchwork of public lands this year resulted in swaps that added 25,000 acres to the public lands roster. In exchange, BLM transferred 21,670 acres to private ownership and the tax roles.

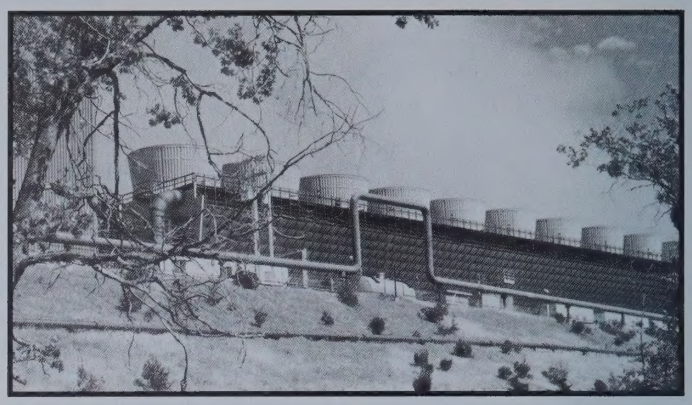
One of the most mammoth land swapping programs ever undertaken by BLM started in the high desert this year. The first exchange under the Western Mojave Land Tenure Adjustment acquired 2,579 acres; another 257 acres of public land were transferred to private owners. This joint BLM-Department of Defense project, which will take several years to complete, acquires public lands in a high-speed corridor between Edwards Air Force Base and Fort Irwin. This will minimize conflicting uses under military airspace, help local government planning, and consolidate public lands to better manage sensitive resources, especially the threatened desert tortoise.

The public gained 1,300 acres of wildlife habitat, grazing land and riparian areas when the Eagle Lake Resource Area and Susanville District exchanged land with the Scheckert Ranches in eastern Lassen County. Other significant swaps in this area added 2,699 acres, including significant wet meadow and riparian land along the headwaters of Fitzhugh Creek in southern Modoc County. The Alturas Resource Area staff will manage the lower reaches of the creek as a riparian demonstration area.

Along the Colorado River and in other areas throughout the state, the BLM-California State Office worked with resource areas and the Bureau of Reclamation, Mid-Pacific Regional Office, to review the Bureau of Reclamation withdrawals in California. As a result, 225,000 acres may soon be opened to public use.

Unfortunately, some lands program activities are anything but upbeat. Consequently, this year BLM-California continued its efforts to protect the resources and the public by responding to 190 cases of unauthorized uses of public lands, including illegal dumping, agricultural operations, and blocking access roads.

Rights of Way



A 26-mile long, 20-inch diameter, water pipeline from Clear Lake Highlands to the Geysers geothermal field in Napa County will help replenish the diminishing reservoir, allowing operators to continue to meet California's energy needs.

Winds howl through San Gorgonio Pass turning giant blades in a forest of wind turbine generators. A steel column of PacMan-like stanchions marches across a power corridor in the East Sierra for as far as the eye can see, thrumming with electricity for 10 million Southern Californians. California's energy, transportation, and communications networks are known throughout the world for their complexity and efficiency. Many of these networks use or cross public lands. Meeting the public's needs for rights-of-way projects is one of BLM-California's most important tasks.

For example, more than 265 million kilowatts of wind energy, an important alternative energy source, were generated last year alone from the San Gorgonio Pass. These wind farms west of Palm Springs also produced approximately $1.8 million in rentals and royalties for BLM-California.

Whatever the project, each of the more than 4,500 current rights of way on public lands in California was reviewed by BLM staff before authorization to ensure their use was safe for the environment. Grantees also must pay fair market value to the public treasury for the right to use public land.

During 1992, BLM-California engaged in various stages of the rights-of-way granting process for a number of major projects on public lands. Staff issued 178 grants and processed 204 applications. Some 46 rights-of-way trespass cases were closed as well.

Processing of a major oil pipeline right of way into the Los Angeles basin to transport oil for refining is currently underway. Shipping oil in this manner will reduce the volume of oil carried by ship, consequently lessening the potential for environmentally damaging offshore spills.

Conway Summit east of Yosemite National Park now sports two cloud-seeding stations. These self-contained units disperse silver iodide crystals, monitor current weather conditions, and relay data to a control center at the Desert Research Institute of the University of Nevada, Reno. When activated during a storm, these units can add up to 0.1 inch of snow per hour.

Wind farms in the California desert produced approximately $1.8 million in rentals and royalties last year.

Planning & Environmental Coordination

Regional planning strategies to conserve California's world-renowned biodiversity remained a high priority in 1992, and will continue to dominate the planning arena for years to come. BLM-California is engaged in biodiversity regional efforts in the San Joaquin Valley, Sierra Nevada, Klamath Province, Western Mojave, Carrizo Plain, Coachella Valley, Santa Rosa Mountains, and the North Fork Feather River.

Land-use planning decisions provide the management objectives and basis for BLM activities throughout California. This year was no exception, with new plans being started, revised plans reaching completion, and environmental studies underway throughout the state.These decisions are made in the public arena with public participation a central requirement throughout the decision making process. In 1992 four land use plans were in progress with one completion—the Arcata Resource Management Plan (RMP) in northwestern California—and the other three plans—the Eastern Sierra region (Bishop), San Diego-Los Angeles Basin (Palm Springs-South Coast) and north central California (Redding)—set for 1993 completion dates. The South Coast RMP will be a blueprint to guide BLM's management of 129,000 acres of public land and 167,500 acres of subsurface minerals along the scenic Southern California coast and inland. The plan revealed many uses and users not previously identified, including one of the nation's premier hang gliding sites. Land use planning activities in other parts of the state focused on oil and gas issues in the Hollister area and desert tortoise and off-highway vehicle issues in the Southern California desert.

The Baltic gold mine near Ridgecrest was one of several major proposals requiring an EIS in 1992.

This year BLM also evaluated approximately 70 major projects along with hundreds of smaller proposed actions for National Environmental Policy Act compliance. Several major proposals required an environmental impact statement (EIS), among them the Baltic Mine, a heap leach gold mine near Randsburg in Kern County. Some waste disposal proposals also needed an EIS, including Eagle Mountain, a former open pit iron ore mine 60 miles east of Indio in eastern Riverside County; Railcycle, a 4,800 acre site near the Santa Fe rail line west of Needles in the Mojave Desert; and Ward Valley, a low-level radioactive waste site in Riverside County.

The Coachella Valley (left) is the site of one of BLM-California's major biodiversity planning efforts.

Cultural Resources

Interpreting and protecting the remains and artifacts of 10,000-20,000 years of human history on public lands in California is an awesome task since there are more than 15,000 recorded prehistoric sites. But the cooperation of universities and other institutions on a number of important projects help make BLM's job easier

In 1992 BLM-California worked with 13 such institutions from developing an interpretive brochure on the Wintu of the Upper Sacramento Valley with the California Native American Commission to restoration of rock art sites in the Carrizo Plain and the first interpretive plan for the King Range National Conservation Area. BLM provided $67,000 for these 13 agreements, funding more than matched by the $375,000 from our cooperators.

Cooperative agreements between the Susanville District and two universities this year added greatly to what we know of the prehistoric day-to-day life and environment of northeastern California and northwestern Nevada. At Northern California's Eagle Lake, new evidence of early human year-round occupation continued to be exposed as the lake dropped to its lowest level in almost 40 years. Students from California State University, Chico, worked with BLM archaeologists and engineers to map several newly discovered cultural resource sites and record information from them. The teams used high tech global positioning systems to locate the site and geographic information systems to record them.

Meanwhile field crews from the University of Nevada, Reno, excavated an important, vandalized early human occupation site in rugged, remote High Rock Canyon. Crews also reached back into the past to inventory the Smoke Creek Desert on northwestern Nevada lands under BLM-California jurisdiction. There, students discovered a "paleo-environmental" cave that could provide information on climatic conditions up to 10,000 years ago. BLM expects these ongoing projects to provide more information about past drought cycles and data for computer models attempting to predict future drought trends. This knowledge gained more importance as California and the Great Basin struggled through a sixth straight year of drought.

In another cooperative venture, the Redding Resource Area and Shasta College finished their third season of cooperative archaeology at two prehistoric village sites and one prehistoric rock shelter on the Upper Sacramento River. Archaeological remains discovered attest to river use for more than 3,000 years.

Petroglyphs were discovered along Eagle Lake in northeast California as drought forced the shoreline to recede.

Heritage Education: In the oak-studded foothills of the West Sierra in Fresno County, members of the Fresno Sportsmen's Association, local Boy Scouts and other volunteers are building "learning stations" at the Squaw Leap Management Area where BLM staff and elementary school teachers will expose students to Native American culture, archaeology, and public land stewardship.

Kuchamaa added to National Register

Working with the Kumeyaay Indians of Southern California, BLM successfully nominated San Diego County's Tecate Peak for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. Tecate Peak or "Kuchamaa" represents the first property ever included on the register solely for its historic religious significance to Native Americans. Under California's leadership, BLM is also funding Native American consultation and coordination guidance to build a stronger cooperative relationship between BLM and Native American communities nationwide.

University of Nevada, Reno, field crews working at High Rock Canyon

Recreation

A 300-person mountain bike race at Cow Mountain near Clear Lake

Opportunities for Californians to enjoy the outdoors are as diverse as the landscape of the Golden State itself. Recreation is a major use of BLM public lands in California, drawing more than 26 million visitors in 1992. Camping and off-highway vehicle travel remained the most popular activities this year, but hunting, boating, and fishing were also important draws for recreation buffs. Making the visitor experience positive is a strong emphasis of BLM's strategic plan—Recreation 2000—and in 1992 significant progress in improving facilities and outreach took place on several fronts.

Cooperation with other agencies, groups and individuals is critical to BLM-California's successful recreation program. Development of recreational vehicle opportunities on public lands through funds from state-levied off-highway vehicle (OHV) user fees and gas taxes is one of BLM's most important partnerships. Among the "Green Sticker" projects this year was construction of a staging area serving the Gene Chappie/Shasta OHV Area in Shasta County. Individual and group volunteers helped BLM and the U.S. Forest Service turn a $300,000 OHV grant into a $900,000 OHV staging area.

About 43 percent of Americans choose driving for pleasure as a favorite leisure activity. With 30 million people and more OHVs than most states combined, California is an ideal setting for self-guided touring, especially in the less-well known, scenic pockets of the state. An example of BLM's commitment to work with rural communities to help local economies through increased tourism is the new 93-mile Surprise Valley/ Barrel Springs Back County Byway. With the support and encouragement of Modoc and Washoe county governments and the Surprise Valley Chamber of Commerce, BLM expanded this scenic route to include the ranching communities and historic sites of the Surprise Valley and 49 Canyon on the newly established California National Historic Trail. To help visitors get the full flavor of this unique sagebrush patchwork of history and geology, BLM's Surprise office produced a driving tour guide describing points of interest.

Horses, cows and people all came together in 1992 for a Wild West extravaganza out on the range in the Bishop area. A total of 13 recreational events in the East Sierra, put on by pack outfits and livestock operators, helped move cows and horses from winter to summer ranges and back again. About 250 people got a chance to ride the high country with long hours in the saddle tempered by hot chuckwagon chow and the chance to swap yarns with cowboys and sleep under the stars. The Bishop Resource Area staff monitored the events with vegetation transects and compliance checks.

Providing universal access to the public lands is a major goal of BLM-California's recreation program. At the Payne's Creek Wildlife Showcase Area near Red Bluff, a new 600-ft. by 5-ft. ramp provides wheelchair access to Payne's Pond, stocked with largemouth bass, catfish, and pan fish. Susanville area residents who use Hobo Camp along the Susan River now have an easier time reaching this shady, peaceful recreation spot thanks to added access roads and parking. Trail users, including the physically challenged, also found improved access to the Bizz Johnson Trail. BLM modified four trail stiles—installed years ago to keep out

motor vehicles—to allow people in wheelchairs and those with walking difficulties to pass through. These improvements make the first seven miles of the trail more accessible. In the King Range National Conservation Area (NCA) along the North Coast, BLM replaced old facilities with more aesthetically pleasing ones that also made the site accessible to physically challenged campers. The Arcata Resource Area's goal is to restore one campground each year over the next four years to provide universal access to the rugged NCA.

Other highlights of 1992 are:

❑ Designation of four new BLM-Calfornia routes as part of the national back country byways system. The Saline and Eureka Back Country Byways in Inyo County, the Bradshaw Trail in Riverside County, and the Surprise Valley/Barrel Springs Back Country Byway in Modoc County, Calif., and Washoe County, Nev.

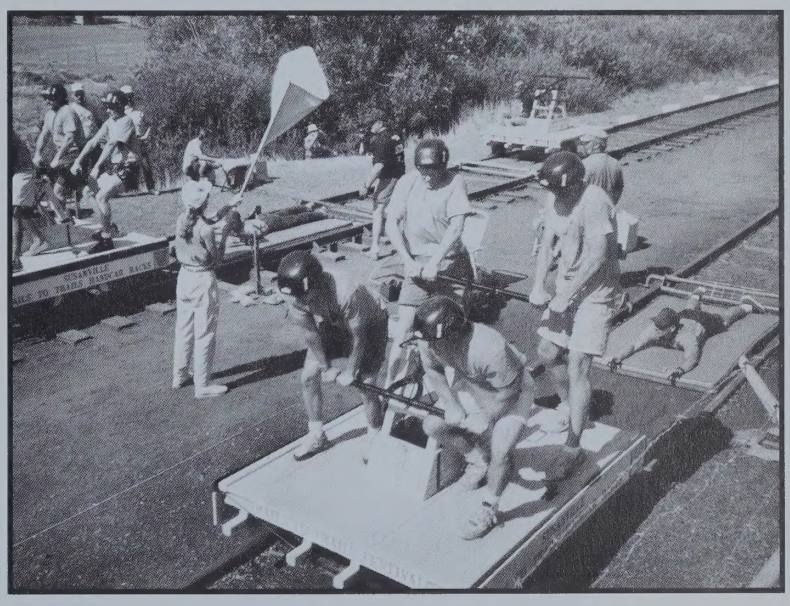
❑ Completed the 11-mile Glen Eden Trail in northwestern California, a cooperative project with the Clear Lake Horsemen's Association and the California Conservation Corps.

❑ Developed a network of mountain bike trails in Inyo County with the help of the Ridgecrest Mountain Bike Club and Ridgecrest Convention and Visitors Bureau.

❑ Hosted the BLM National Mountain Bike Task Force at the Santa Rosa Mountains National Scenic Area near Palm Springs.

❑ Sponsored "floating workshops" on the lower Merced and North Fork American River giving concessionaires and others involved in whitewater rafting a chance to practice river safety and learn about the points of interest of these wild and scenic rivers.

Volunteers help blaze trails in the King Range NCA.



Bizz Johnson festival delivers!

The rumble and clack of steel-wheeled railroad handcars filled the air near the Susanville Trailhead of the Bizz Johnson Trail over Labor Day Weekend as the Rails to Trails Festival, co-hosted by BLM's Eagle Lake Resource Area, returned to Susanville. The event drew about 175 competitors to California's newest national recreational trail. Besides head-to-head handcar racing, participants enjoyed mountain bike rides, a fun ride and walk, and interpretive guided walks along the Bizz Johnson Trail. Two historic railroad tunnels re-opened earlier this year, enabling bicyclists, joggers, hikers, and equestrians to again pass through a mountain. BLM, Lassen National Forest, Lassen County Arts Council, and Lassen Velo Bicycle Club hosted the festival with Susanville businesses providing funding.

Soil, Air & Water

Fairy rings of wildflowers encircle warm vernal pools . . .
Oak and cottonwood canopies line meandering water courses where river otters play tag with silver-sided fish. . . .

Conserving and enhancing riparian and wetlands on California's public lands is a top priority for BLM. Cooperative projects with Ducks Unlimited (DU), Quail Unlimited (QU), the Nature Conservancy (TNC), and other partners are a vital link in BLM's strategy for managing these important areas throughout the state.

BLM-California started a host of riparian-wetlands activities this year to implement Fish and Wildlife 2000, the Riparian-Wetland Initiative for the 1990s, and Range of Our Vision, both national BLM environmental strategies to guide future public lands management. Prepared this year, the BLM-California Riparian-Wetlands Strategy complements these national programs and will guide planning actions, on-the-ground improvements, outreach, and training as well as expand opportunities for partnering to restore and enhance these areas.

A prime example of the type of teamwork required to answer future environmental challenges is a recent memorandum of understanding between BLM, the Bureau of Reclamation, Trust for Public Lands, California Department of Fish and Game and California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. Through this agreement, privately-owned lands in the Grass Valley Creek Watershed of Trinity County will be purchased, stabilized and restored. Silt from decomposing soils combined with low water flows in the Trinity River reduced salmon and steelhead production by 75 percent. In 1992, BLM acquired 16,000 acres for this project; additional acquisition will take place in future years. In Northern California also, efforts progressed in the Mattole River watershed to protect and manage salmon and steelhead habitat.

While the smog-shrouded Los Angeles basin is the state's best known pocket of bad air, the San Joaquin Valley, often called the "World's Greengrocer" consistently exceeds state and federal air pollution standards. BLM's Bakersfield District works with other government agencies and

Volunteers help construct wire frames to protect oak seedlings during the 2nd annual Keep California Beautiful community service project, held in 1992 at Cosumnes River Preserve near Sacramento.

local air pollution organizations in a pro-active program to reduce air pollution's threat to public health and damages to crops and forests.

Other major accomplishments this year in the Soil, Air & Water program include:

❑ Designating Cedar Canyon, Upper Santa Ana River Wash, and Santa Margarita, riparian-wetland areas in Southern California's south coast region, as Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC).

❑ Fencing three vernal pool areas in the Redding Resource Area, which contain the slender Orcutt grass (*Orcuttia tenuis*), a candidate species for federal listing as a threatened or endangered species.

❑ Working with the American River Nature Center to restore and maintain 30 acres of oak-riparian habitat near Coloma.

❑ Instituting riparian and fish habitat improvements in several areas of the Susanville District. Among them are the Horse Creek/Dixie Valley area, Goose Lake basin, Cowhead Slough, Wall Canyon Creek, and the Susan River.

❑ Co-sponsoring "Wild about Wetlands," with Sacramento County and other federal and state agencies. More than 100,000 people learned about riparian and wetlands conservation from this exhibit on its travels through the Central Valley.

Modoc Middle School students are "vets" at helping bring back riparian vegetation at Clear Creek.

Tamarisk on the way out at Afton Canyon

In Southern California, a major ongoing effort at Afton Canyon, the "Grand Canyon of the Mojave," aims to remove tamarisk, a non-native, aggressive and thirsty species that crowds out native vegetation but offers little in the way of food or shelter for wildlife. Volunteers working with the Barstow Resource Area cut, piled and burned the plant over a 200-acre area, then treated stumps with herbicide to control resprouting. The Juniper Flats ACEC, also in Southern California, boasts a cooperative wildlife habitat improvement project with Boy Scouts and Quail Unlimited to develop springs and guzzlers, rehabilitate unauthorized routes, and build fences to keep cattle out of the BLM-managed 100-acre riparian zone.

Wildlife Habitat

California is one of the most habitat diverse places on earth. More than 800 species of mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and fish make their homes on public lands in the Golden State, either year-round or seasonally.

In 1992, BLM-California continued to implement California Fish and Wildlife 2000, management and conservation strategies for 17 million acres of public land. BLM-California published a *California Wetlands Habitat Strategy* in support of this and other BLM national environmental initiatives and *The Tule Elk in California, 10th Report to Congress.* This last document presents the status of this subspecies of elk found only in California and recommends future management.

Congress through the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) supplied $10.4 million to BLM-California for land acquisition. (See p. 4 - Acquisitions for areas added.)

Diverse fish, plant and wildlife improvements are underway throughout the state as well. This year, BLM-California offered $450,000 in challenge grants. Other organizations and the State of California responded with $850,000 in contributions in support of these projects.

Resolution of conflicts and development of integrated management plans for the East Lassen Area topped the slate of resource issues facing the Susanville District in 1992.The million-acre region is home to the East Lassen deer herd, California's "premier" deer herd. It also provides habitat for BLM-California's largest herd of wild and free-roaming horses (more than 700 animals) and supports cattle and sheep grazing. Near Clear Lake in Northern California BLM burned over 450 acres in the Cow Mountain management area to improve deer habitat at this popular hunting, equestrian and off-highway vehicle area.

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection contributed a labor crew to complete erosion control on five miles of BLM roads in the lone Manzanita Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) in Amador County. This erosion threatened to degrade habitat of the lone manzanita, a potential candidate for threatened and endangered species listing. T

In Nevada County, BLM-California signed a cooperative agreement with the Timber Framers Guild, Yuba Watershed Institute, and local land owners. The partners will work together to protect wildlife and selectively manage old-growth trees in the 1,400 acre, BLM-managed Inimim Forest.

Some 10 miles of new fencing will help keep cattle away from the fragile shore of Eagle Lake, the state's second-largest lake. The fencing was a boon for migrating and resident waterfowl, which acquired an important haven as drought continued to shrink other bodies of water in the northeast corner of the state. Protection of the lakeshore also nurtured lush shoreline plant growth for bird nesting and feed.

Finally, at the Fish Slough ACEC in the Eastern Sierra, the Bishop Resource Area staff established entrance signs and kiosks, expanded the rare plant inventory of the Fish Slough milkvetch and Inyo County star tulip, and continued to monitor the endangered Owens Valley pupfish.

BLM worked with Trout Unlimited volunteers and a California Department of Fish and Game wild trout crew to "electrofish" Fitzhugh Creek in northeastern California to gather monitoring data. Other agencies and grazing permittees joined BLM to restore the creek as a successful trout stream that should soon boast "16 inchers."

If you build it, they will come. . . back! The Cosumnes River Preserve near Sacramento is one of several major BLM, Ducks Unlimited, Nature Conservancy cooperative projects now underway to re-establish wetlands and become a major stop for migratory birds along the Pacific Flyway once more.

Bringing back the natives

In an effort to bring back the natives, BLM-California made considerable headway in fish habitat improvements this year. Efforts include:

❑ Constructing two rearing side channels, approximately 5,000 ft. long, paralleling the Trinity River. These channels provide low water velocity, a critical factor in rearing young salmon and steelhead. The Trinity River Task Force helped fund these improvements.

❑ Inventorying six miles of stream in Tuolumne County in search of a rare sardine-sized fish, the California Red Hills roach, *Lavinia symmetricus.*

❑ Placing three tons of logs and boulders to improve salmon and steelhead habitat in Honeydew Creek in the King Range National Conservation Area.

❑ Completing the Susan River fisheries management plan, featuring several recreation fishing projects

❑ Helping save the Modoc sucker in northeastern California. BLM also worked with interagency and public groups to protect seven candidate fish species.

Guzzlers combat drought

Among current efforts is an ongoing cooperative project between BLM, other federal and state agencies, and conservation groups to coordinate improved maintenance of water developments. Quail Unlimited spearheads this Wildlife Habitat Improvement Program (WHIP). The group provides leadership, training, and volunteers. They also maintain a database of accomplishments and report status to federal habitat management agencies. Since WHIP's inception, volunteers have logged over 17,000 hours and 172,000 miles of travel accomplishing these tasks. In another project, BLM, the California Department of Fish and Game, the Society for the Conservation of Bighorn Sheep, and Desert Wildlife Unlimited (DWI) installed four innovative "guzzlers," providing new water sources for about 40,000 acres of bighorn sheep and mule deer habitat. Guzzlers are artificial watering sites that collect and store rainwater. The new design by DWI members requires less maintenance by placing the water storage tank underground and providing a ramp entry down into the tank.

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Threatened & Endangered Species

Major efforts are underway in Southern California to preserve the threatened state reptile, the desert tortoise (right). Major gains took place this year in acquiring new habitat including added acreage for the Desert Tortoise Natural Area (left) near California City.

BLM-managed lands support almost half of the 104 federally-listed threatened and endangered (T&E) animal and plant species in the Golden State. Another 200 species found on public lands are rare enough to be considered candidates for T&E status. While some species inhabit only a small amount of land, others range across broad areas, like the northern spotted owl and the desert tortoise, both listed as "threatened" by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

BLM is leading the fight to find ways to stop the tortoise's decline. Work advanced on several fronts in 1992 to this end, among them cooperatively-funded research and monitoring projects for developing a tortoise recovery plan. Extensive efforts took place in the Rand Mountains Management Area in Kern County to preserve critical tortoise habitat. BLM-California closed 78 percent of existing vehicle routes and restricted mining, grazing, and other uses. Public awareness is also a critical component of this campaign to save California's Official State Reptile. The latest addition to BLM-California's public education arsenal is the booklet, *Answering Questions about Desert Tortoises*, prepared in cooperation with the California Department of Parks and Recreation.

Furthermore, several coordinated planning efforts in the high desert progressed on behalf of the tortoise. Chief among them is the West Mojave Coordinated Management Plan, the first of four state regional habitat management plans. Taking part in this effort are 10 cities and communities, 4 counties, a dozen state and federal agencies, and many private interest groups.

Along the North Coast, the northern spotted owl listing presents similar challenges. Under contract to BLM, Humboldt State University's Wildlife Research Department inventoried 8,000 acres and monitored 70 percent of the spotted owl territories known to occur on or adjacent to BLM lands. BLM-California also took a major role in the formation of the Klamath Province bio-regional planning group. This unique planning venture brings together BLM, the U.S. Forest Service, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, California Departments of Forestry and Fish and Game, local officials, industry, environmental groups, and others in a dialogue to develop a coordinated approach to dealing with the owl and a diversity of other species and habitats.

Additional T&E species commanding the attention of BLM biological staff this year were the Peninsular Range population of desert bighorn sheep, Mohave tui chub, Peregrine falcon, and flat-tailed horned lizard. A long-term Peregrine Falcon monitoring and population study continued in Northern California, and a report this year noted that the species appears to be making a recovery in the region. Cooperating with BLM in this effort are the timber industry, U. S. Forest Service, California Department of Fish and Game, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, University of California, Santa Cruz, and many private landowners. This partnership may soon put this regal raptor back in the air.

Although public attention more often focuses on T&E animals, BLM also made headway in identifying and protecting T&E plant

Inventorying the rare California jewel flower in the San Joaquin Valley

species. Strategies for implementing the goals and objectives of BLM's national Fish & Wildlife 2000 program were developed and published in *Rare Plants and Natural Plant Communities: A Strategy for the Future*, spearheaded by BLM-California staff.

On the ground in 1992, special status plant inventories took place on some 65,241 acres of public land. BLM uses the term "special status plants" to include all of the following: federally-listed and proposed species, federal candidate species, State listed species, and sensitive species. Sensitive species are species that don't meet any of the first three criteria, but warrant special management consideration as determined by BLM State Directors. In California 16 federally-listed endangered or threatened plants occur on public lands, along with 189 "special status species."

Near Eureka, BLM monitoring continued on habitat restoration of the endangered Menzies wallflower on public lands along the North Spit of Humboldt Bay with the help of the Nature Conservancy and Humboldt State University. And on public lands at Red Mountain in Mendocino County, demographic monitoring progressed on several special status plants, including McDonald's rockcress (*Arabis mcdonaldiana*) and Kellogg's buckwheat (*Erigonum kelloggi*).

Peregrine falcons appear to be making a recovery in northwest California.

Forest Management

Reduced funding, listing of the northern spotted owl, continuing drought, and insect-caused tree mortality brought many challenges to BLM foresters this year. Even so, BLM-California sold over 8.5 million board feet (MBF) of commercial timber generating revenues of approximately $2 million. About 50 percent of this volume comprised fire and insect salvage timber.

The Redding Resource Area held two green timber sales where timber sold for 240 percent of the appraised value. Another sale of timber damaged in the Fountain Fire in Butte County equaled 2 MBF and brought in $516,775, some 409 percent above appraised price. The Folsom Resource Area sold 3.6 MBF of salvage timber for $912,560. Standing timber in the area had been hard hit by the mountain pine beetle, which thrives under drought conditions.

Major strides were made in inventorying BLM forest land in the range of the northern spotted owl and marbled murrelet for the California Wildlife Habitat Relationship System, an elaborate data bank developed by the California Department of Fish and Game and others. Data will result in computerized maps of various forest stands and land conditions. This will enable BLM foresters and biologists to assess potential forest structure and wildlife habitat improvements. Of the 278,000 acres in the system to date, some 103,000 acres were added this year.

Reforestation of recently harvested and backlogged non-forest areas continues as a high priority in the Ukiah District. In 1992 the Arcata Resource Area planted 38,812 Douglas fir seedlings in the King Range National Conservation Area along the North Coast, and 3,000 Douglas fir seedlings at the Red Mountain Area near Garberville with the help of the Mattole Forest and Rangeland Cooperative. Plantings in the King Range site will regenerate former private land acquired by BLM. Overall, BLM-California planted 170,000 seedlings, mainly in the Ukiah District, and improved more than 245 acres of timber stands, primarily in the Susanville District.

Californians once again took to the woods to collect 841 cords of fuelwood and other forest plants, resulting in additional revenues of $11,000 from 446 small sale permits.

Forester at work in northwest California assessing a tree's health

Volunteers continue to complement California's forest management program. This year, they logged over 19,000 hours statewide, making possible an estimated $170,000 bonus for California forests, like planting seedlings in King Range (above).

RANGELAND MANAGEMENT

Cattle and sheep are familiar icons of the Old West. Today, BLM continues its commitment to improve the condition of the public rangelands these livestock share with wildlife, watersheds, and other resources. BLM-California works closely with the 719 ranchers who graze their 58,000 cattle and 89,000 sheep on 9.3 million acres of the Golden State's public lands. These ranchers paid $537,641 in 1992 for 280,000 animal unit months (AUM) of forage. An AUM is the amount of forage eaten by one cow or five sheep in one month.

Increasing rangeland monitoring remained a high priority in 1992, particularly where sensitive resources fall within grazing allotments. The coordinated resource management (CRMP) approach to livestock grazing on public lands continues to bring interested parties to the table to find possible ways to improve grazing management. This is especially true in the East Lassen area along the California and Nevada border. Here, various interest groups work closely with the Susanville District to develop an integrated management plan to enhance all rangeland values with a strong focus on monitoring riparian and mule deer habitats.

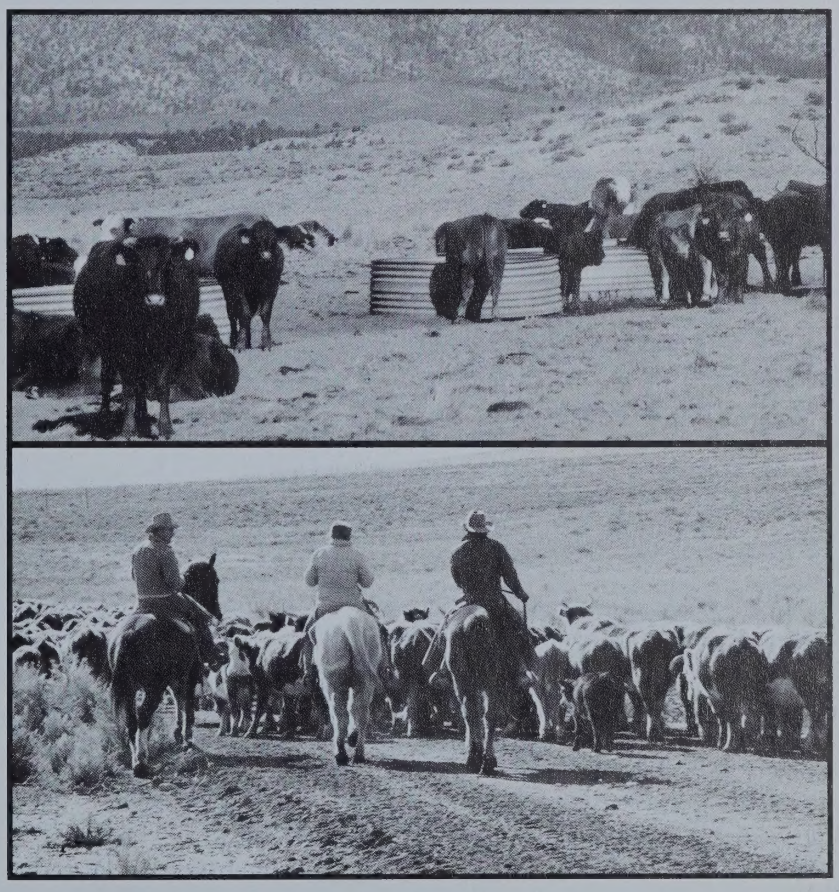
Closer to the coast and several hundred miles to the south, the Hollister Resource Area works closely with 70 ranchers to coordinate livestock grazing with threatened and endangered plants along the western foothills of the San Joaquin Valley. This year's activities include monitoring of 11 plant populations, a 6,300-acre inventory for new populations (They discovered four!), and installation of three fence enclosures to protect six populations.

Intensive monitoring of the impacts of livestock grazing on desert tortoise habitat remains a strong emphasis in the California desert. The West Mojave Tortoise Plan now in development will provide future direction for sheep grazing in the region.

In 1992, BLM-California completed 25 new range improvement projects.

An example is a joint venture between the Caliente Resource Area and Soil Conservation Service at three spring sites near Havilah in Kern County.

Controlling populations of noxious weeds on rangelands in cooperation with state and county governments is another high priority. Besides removing more than 50 acres of tamarisk in the California desert, BLM burned 700 acres of undesirable vegetation in the Tule Mountain allotment in the Susanville District, part of a multi-year strategy to improve vegetation composition and conditions. This allotment "showcases" the cooperative management displayed by area ranchers in enhancing environmental values of both public and privately owned rangelands.



Cattle grazing in the Susanville District

Special Areas

Ghostly ruins of historic desert forts. . . .

Black sand beaches shrill with sea birds . . . .

Ice-carved mountains carpeted by centuries old pine. . . .

California's diverse ecosystems encompass special management areas with unique or unusual ecological, scientific, cultural, and scenic features. BLM-California manages 117 of these areas—covering almost a million acres—as Areas of Critical Environmental Concern or ACECs. Half of all ACECs managed by BLM nationwide are in California, reflecting the unusual diversity and special values of the Golden State.

Retaining its unique "cowboy country" flavor with pole fences, cattle, and windmills, the East Mojave National Scenic Area (NSA) is the largest special management area administered by BLM-California. The Bureau continues to protect sensitive areas within its borders and expand opportunities for public use and enjoyment in this NSA designated 11 years ago. Recent additions to the East Mojave include a visitor center and improved campground at picturesque Hole in the Wall.

The ruggedly beautiful, 60,000 acre King Range, the nation's first National Conservation Area (NCA), spans the state's fabled "Lost Coast." The present management focus is on maintaining wilderness and establishing scenic hiking trails. BLM added 118 acres to the NCA in 1992.

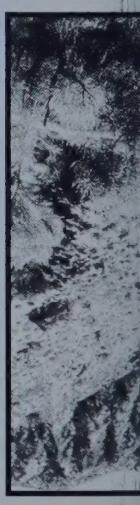
The grassy expanse of the Carrizo Plain Natural Area in eastern San Luis Obispo County supports a veritable "Who's Who" of threatened and endangered plants from the diminutive San Joaquin kit fox and kangaroo rat to the exquisite California jewel flower. Its acquisition by BLM and partner, the Nature Conservancy (TNC), is one of BLM's greatest success stories in recent history. Work continues today to restore the 180,000 area to its past glory. This year, BLM worked with the California Department of Fish and Game and TNC to develop a high-tech database of vegetation and species data, implement a 50,000-acre livestock monitoring program, and increase on-the-ground staff.

Watchable, yet elusive, six desert bighorn sheep spotted south of New York Butte at the Keynot Peak ACEC, a remote and rugged area in the Southern Inyo Mountains, confirmed the area's suitability as habitat for all sexes and age classes of the species. Observers judged the ram, four ewes, and one juvenile to be in excellent condition and photographed them.

Soda Springs aims

Wildlife habitat got a real boost
Riverside County with the dredgi
ing sites where the endangered M
can still be found. Dredging also
slated as a future home for the ti
nated sensitive species, the west
Another special area in San Bern
is exploding with native vegetatio
staff and volunteers. New signs,
removal are all helping return the
proved watchable wildlife area. I
pear to be returning to the canyo

Wildlife watching is a popular sport at Cache Creek ACEC.



Big

o bring back the birds

992 at the Soda Springs ACEC in
f Lake Tuendae, one of three remain-
ve tui chub (*Gila bicolor mohavensis*)
place at neighboring West Pond,
ndangered fish and the BLM-desig-
ond turtle (*Clemmys marmorata*).
no County, the Afton Canyon ACEC,
nce more thanks to the efforts of BLM
bilitated vehicle routes, and tamarisk
EC to a natural state and an im-
t, bird species not seen in years ap-
h its improved water source.

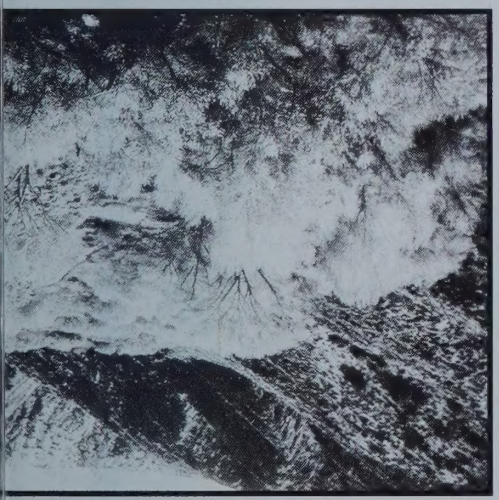
Wilderness

Preserving wilderness is investing in nature's legacy. This uniquely American land heritage provides assurance that all wild lands will not disappear. BLM-managed wilderness study areas (WSAs) in California range from the vast, arid vistas of the Mojave Desert to rock-jumbled beaches along the North Coast to sage-studded plains of northeastern California. This year, reclamation, inventory, and public awareness were strong emphases of BLM-California's wilderness program.

In the Jacumba WSA in Imperial County, the El Centro Resource Area, with the aid of the local Sierra Club, cleaned out mining debris and trash at a significantly impacted site. The California Department of Fish and Game and Society for the Conservation of Big Horn Sheep helped the same resource area remove tamarisk from Cimmaron Spring in the Carrizo Gorge WSA of San Diego County. The Peninsular population of bighorn sheep extensively use the springs for forage and water. This population has been listed as "threatened" by the California Department of Fish and Game and proposed for the same listing by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

In the high desert, the Ridgecrest Resource Area reclaimed and "recolored" rocks, impacted by illegal mining, in the largest BLM-managed WSA in the "lower 48"—Saline Valley WSA in Inyo County. Farther north in the Cache Creek WSA in Colusa and Yolo Counties, the Clear Lake Resource Area led interpretive hikes with local groups to canvass the WSA's bald eagle population.

Finally, in the Susanville District's Surprise Resource Area, the Sierra Club Toiyabe Chapter helped BLM-California with a unique, ongoing monitoring project. The Reno-based group sent its volunteers throughout northwest Nevada to 12 WSAs—half a million acres—administered by BLM-California.



ongo Canyons ACEC added new ground.

The Saline Valley WSA in Inyo County is the largest BLM-managed WSA in the "Lower 48."

Wild Horse & Burro Management

About 2,500 wild horses and 2,400 burros were home on the public rangelands of California in 1992.

BLM manages these herds as permanent residents, but because they have few natural predators, herd sizes can expand beyond the range's capability to support them. BLM then rounds up excess animals and makes them available for adoption by qualified private citizens. Wranglers from the Susanville District corral and their counterparts from Rock Springs, Wyo., rounded up wild horses and burros this year, keeping populations stable and in ecological balance with their habitat.

Waiting for new homes at Walnut Creek

A total of 766 animals found homes through BLM-California's Susanville and Ridgecrest corrals and six satellite adoptions in Del Mar, Ventura, Riverside, Walnut Creek, Ukiah, and Chico. Interest in 1992 was especially high for horses from Modoc County. In fact, some horse lovers camped as long as two days prior to the openings of adoptions at the Susanville corral to take home one of these big, well-built horses. At the satellites, thousands of people gathered to see these living legends of the Old West. Proud adopters competed for awards in various classes at a mustang equestrian show, sponsored by the Southern California Chapter of the American Mustang and Burro Association, a highlight of the Riverside satellite.

Thumbs up for WH&B volunteers

Volunteers are key to the success of California's adoption program, putting in hundreds of hours at satellite adoptions telling their success stories, giving training tips to new and prospective adopters and helping care for the animals. The Whole Horse Institute and the Animal Protection Institute aided adoptions in Ukiah, Bakersfield, and Susanville Districts this year. (The Earth Day satellite at Walnut Creek is pictured at left.)

Wild burros are popular with kids and adults alike (above, at Susanville corrals).

Prison-gentled horses find good homes

BLM-California continues its efforts to make some of the wild horses more adoptable by having them gentled by inmates at correctional facilities. The third adoption of mustangs halter trained by Kern County jail inmates was a huge success with 17 of 19 horses finding homes in less than four hours. The Susanville District also runs a successful prison gentling program, where older horses are gentled to halter (some are gentled to saddle). The adoption success rate for these Susanville-gentled animals is about 99 percent, with nearly 370 horses finding good homes since the program's inception in 1987. Both Bakersfield and Susanville Districts have waiting lists of potential adopters for these prison-gentled horses.

Inmates help gentle horses at Susanville corrals.

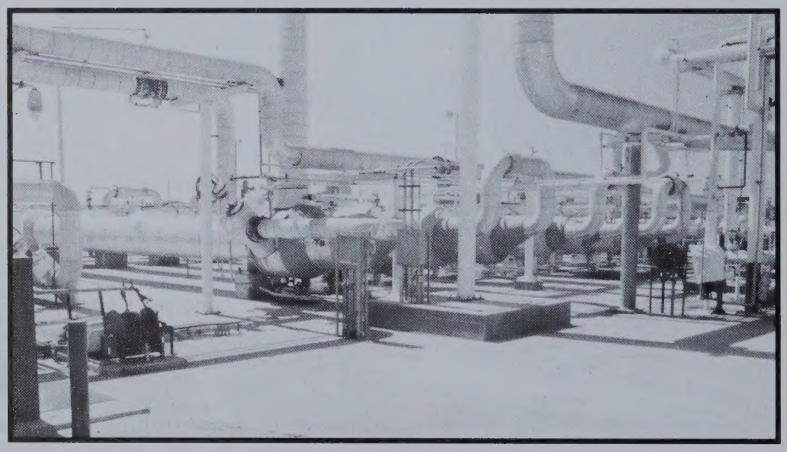
Geothermal Energy

California is the world leader in geothermal production. In 1992 production from existing BLM geothermal leases reached 949 megawatts (enough power for the needs of almost 950,000 people). In terms of BTU energy (British Thermal Units or the amount of heat required to raise the temperature of one pound of water by one degree Fahrenheit), this production constitutes almost 91 percent of the nation's federal geothermal production. This alternative energy source also earned $15.1 million in federal royalties in 1992.

The Imperial Valley has been called the "Saudi Arabia of Geothermal" due to the tremendous energy potential beneath the valley floor. Of the 21 Known Geothermal Resource Areas (KGRA) in California, nine are in the Imperial Valley, and seven of these include federal lands. With steam temperatures exceeding 500 degrees Fahrenheit, the valley has become a primary location for energy development and a major focus for BLM's El Centro Resource Area. The growing East Mesa geothermal area in the valley now has six power plants producing 123 megawatts (MW) of power. Meanwhile in the world's largest producing geothermal area, the Geysers in Napa County, BLM and others strive to extend the life of the reservoir. Among these efforts is a proposed 26-mile long, 20-inch diameter pipeline from Clear Lake, which would transport excess water for injection into the reservoir. Initial construction could begin as early as 1993.

Exploration at Glass Mountain located on lands of three national forests in eastern Siskiyou County continues to build momentum. However, northern spotted owl issues must be resolved before construction begins. Interest also remains high in exploring federal lands within the Randsburg KGRA in eastern Kern County, but here, too, endangered species, in this case the desert tortoise, are at issue. Additional industry interest now focuses on public lands within the Lake City-Surprise Valley KGRA near Cedarville in northeastern California and the Mono-Long Valley KGRA near Mammoth Lakes in the East Sierra.

With over 178,000 acres under federal leases, inspection and enforcement is a critical part of BLM's job. In 1992, BLM conducted more than 280 lease inspections to verify production, ensure compliance with lease and permit requirements, and enforce safety requirements.



The growing East Mesa geothermal area in the Imperial Valley now has six power plants producing 123 megawatts (MW) of power.

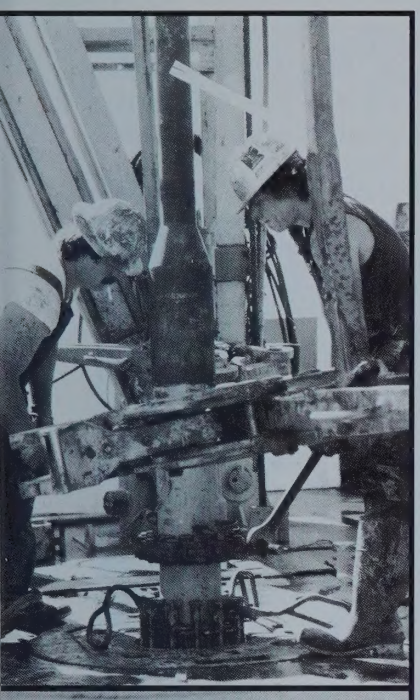
Energy & Minerals

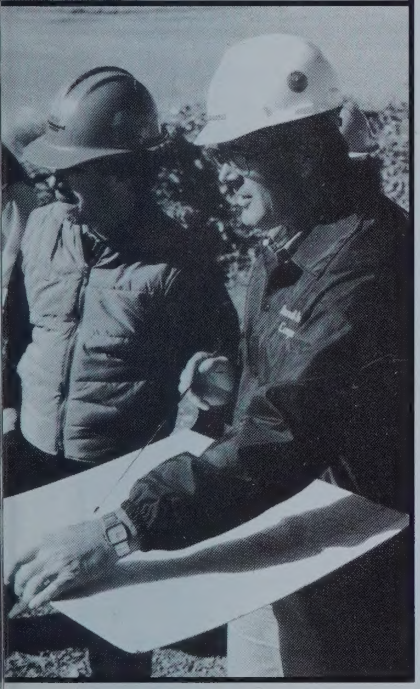
Maintaining our fast-paced lifestyle requires a tremendous amount of natural resources, especially minerals. Making public lands available for wise energy and mineral development is one of BLM's most important functions.The public lands continue to be an important component of the energy and minerals industry in California, and BLM will continue to recognize the key ingredient of land availability and access to these lands to aid in the search for new discoveries. Production of gold increased again this year, oil production continued to decline, gas production was up, while geothermal steam production remained constant. California's increasing population growth should keep the need high for industrial minerals like sand and gravel, limestone, and gypsum.

The mining and energy industries continue to work with BLM and pro-actively approach environmental concerns, especially endangered species, and land reclamation plans that will ensure a productive land use. Moreover, California continues as the leader in the production of non-fuel minerals in the United States, a $3 billion industry

One of this year's highlights was a showcase of the minerals program at the California State Fair. Over the course of the fair, thousands of visitors discovered the key role of minerals in their lives and how BLM integrates minerals and other natural resources into its conservation and multiple-use management responsibilities.

Oil & Gas Resources





Top: Roughnecks drill for steam in the Geysers.

Bottom: Inspection and enforcement of mineral resources activities are a vital part of BLM's mission.

California's oil and gas activities, both state and federal programs, continued to significantly decline in 1992. Federal leases also declined this year, to less than 1,000 leases on just over 600,000 acres. The lower activity produced 17 million barrels of oil, bringing in approximately $32 million in revenues, almost 24 percent less than in 1991, although gas production helped offset the loss by increasing almost 50 percent to 8.5 million cubic feet.

On a brighter note, the Department of Interior and BLM helped enhance future oil production in 1992 by reducing royalty rates on "stripper wells" to help stabilize jobs in the domestic oil industry while adding to the nation's energy security. Another new program approved the substitution of cleaner burning gas to replace oil recovery projects. Not only will these two programs result in larger oil production from existing fields, but they will reduce adverse environmental impacts of production. In addition, the Caliente Resource Area neared completion this year on a resource management plan amendment to aid oil and gas production. It will also streamline and enhance environmental reporting. Since the oil-rich fields of southern Kern County have the largest concentration of threatened and endangered (T&E) species in the continental United States, BLM worked closely with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and state agencies to develop this new plan. Public participation played a key role as well.

After BLM leases the public lands for exploration and development, it remains responsible for inspecting drilling and production operations on those leases. BLM-California monitors each producing well carefully and takes appropriate action to guard the public's interest through site and meter inspections. Further protection comes through the drainage review program to make sure public oil and gas resources are not lost or siphoned by flowing to nonfederal operations on lands adjacent to federal leases.

On yet another environmental front, BLM is working closely with the state by supporting the Division of Oil and Gas and Geothermal with permits and T&E clearances as initial efforts get underway to begin clearing up "idle"—abandoned—wells.

Furthermore, in 1992 BLM-California formed a new coordinating committee with the State of California and industry to troubleshoot problems and come up with more efficient and environmentally sound oil and gas production practices.

Production on oil-rich Kern County fields last year produced $32 million in revenues for the federal treasury, half of which goes to the state.

Mineral Materials

As the Golden State's population escalates so does the demand for mineral materials from the public lands. BLM-managed lands continue to be an important supplier of sand, gravel, aggregate, building stone, and decorative rock.

Currently throughout the state, about 17 different mineral material commodities are being mined. This year, some five million cubic yards of mineral materials were extracted, resulting in annual royalties of about $600,000 for the U.S. Treasury.

This year, BLM increased emphasis on compliance of existing authorizations over new authorizations. Inspections increased 136 percent over Fiscal Year 1991, while new authorizations were down 20 percent, with only 101 new authorizations this year. Nevertheless, annual royalties were only 15 percent below 1991 figures.

Public agencies and non-profit organizations obtain mineral materials at no charge through free-use permits. These permits are also available to counties for construction of roads and other public facilities.

Today, there are more than 230 active sales contracts and free-use permits in California. Their value tops $33 million. At least 45-50 percent of all mining for these materials takes place in the California desert.

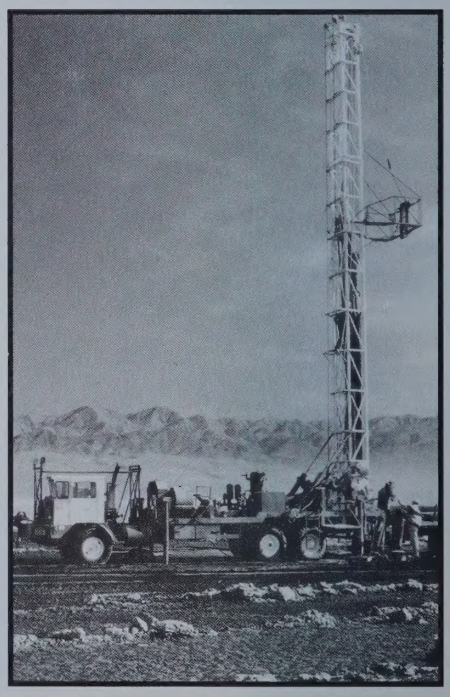
Building stone near Ridgecrest

Solid Leasable Minerals

Many of the items found on the average breakfast table in California—from condiments to place settings to the source that keeps Mom's best linen tablecloth sparkling white—may have originated on BLM-managed public lands. Besides oil, gas, and geothermal resources, BLM is responsible for leasing a number of other important minerals with mostly unfamiliar names that are used by industry and appear in various forms like glass, salt, ceramics, and detergent. Furthermore, Golden State residents through the state treasury reaped the added benefits of half of the $7 million in royalties generated by the extraction of these minerals.

The minerals produced on public lands under this program include borax, soda ash, potash, sodium sulfate, and salt, mostly from North American Chemical's Trona, Westend and Argus facilities at Searles Lake in Inyo County. California's Indian tribes, too, were recipients of this growing industry. BLM oversees mining operations on tribal lands, which generated another $1 million in royalties from sand and gravel operations in 1992 that went directly to tribal governments. All of these operations are in the California desert.

Monitoring these leases for product verification and checking compliance to ensure public health and safety and environmental protection continues to be a high priority for BLM. These inspections ensure conservation of federal solid mineral resources and also make sure production records are accurate. Together with the State of California, BLM made 215 compliance checks in 1992.



Exploring for sodium sulfate at Searles Lake

Mining Law Minerals

While the glory days of the Mother Lode may be grist only for historians, gold and other hardrock minerals today still make important contributions to the economy of the Golden State.

California is the nation's second-highest gold producer. Last year, gold production climbed steadily with a more than respectable jump from 670,000 ounces in 1991 to 796,000 ounces.

The McLaughlin Mine in the Napa Valley was a winner in BLM's national Partners in the Public Spirit award competition this year and is also once again the state's gold production leader with 292,000 ounces. Close on its heels is the Mesquite Mine in Imperial County with 200,000 ounces.

Changes in policy affecting the implementation of 1872 Mining Law programs occupied a lot of staff time in 1992 as BLM-California worked with national headquarters to implement new policy affecting mining claimants. Highlights of these policy changes include:

❑ Proposed $5,000 Bonds: All notice-level operators would need a $5,000 guarantee bond to ensure proper reclamation on all mining operations on public lands.

❑ Proposed revisions to the "3809" regulations: An environmental impact statement is underway analyzing alternatives for proposed changes to these surface management regulations issued in 1980. These Congressionally-mandated reclamation requirements govern exploration and mining activities on BLM-managed lands under the 1872 Mining Law.

❑ New $100 Holding Fee: Miners must pay a $100 rental fee instead of annual assessment work according to a law passed by Congress in October 1992. Only those who qualify for small miner classification are exempt.

❑ Proposed Occupancy Rules: BLM published in the *Federal Register* of Sept. 11, 1992 proposed occupancy rules that would more effectively regulate use and occupancy of unpatented mining claims on public lands. Their adoption would help clear the public lands of illegitimate mining claims, opening more land for recreation, grazing, legal mining and other uses. In addition, illegal operations often degrade the environment, and bring with them other illicit activities like pot gardens and drug labs that pose public dangers.

A new entrant in the gold mining field is Amax's Hayden Hill mine in Lassen County, which kicked off production this year after extensive environmental coordination.

Desert tortoises have the right of way at the American Girl Mine near El Centro.

Technology

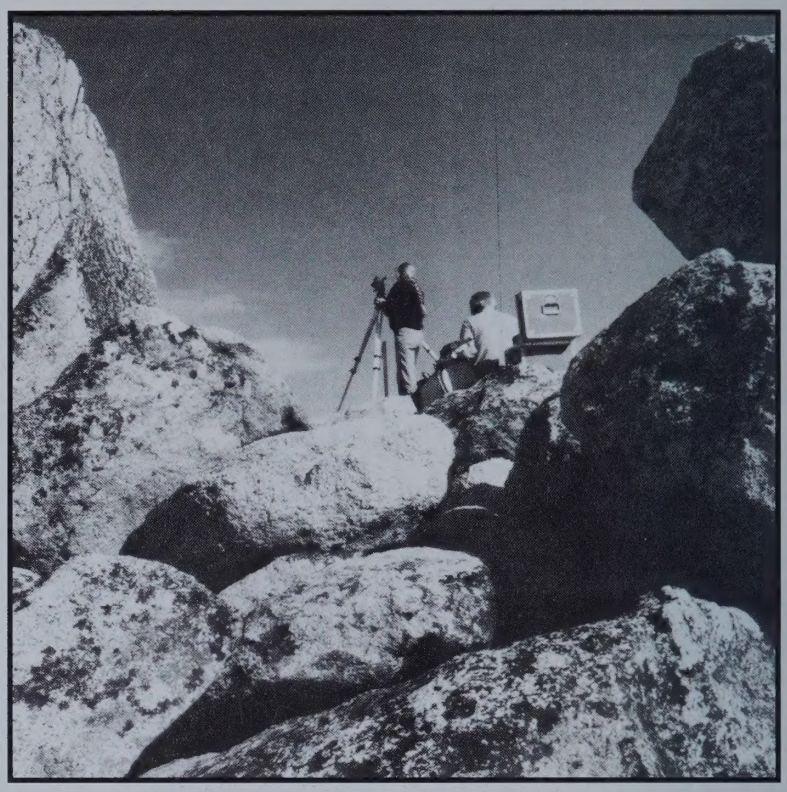
Emerging geographic information systems (GIS) technology continues to help BLM-California staff specialists and managers with diverse resource activities across the state.

In 1992, the West Mojave Coordinated Resource Management Plan used GIS to assemble analytical data in support of the threatened desert tortoise among other resources. In another example, GIS analytic capabilities came into play in the East Lassen area with the use of satellite imagery to map types and conditions of vegetation.

BLM's Bishop office is at the forefront in the application of this high-tech tool to natural resource management. The East Sierra GIS Network comprising BLM and 14 other federal, state, county, and local agencies is committed to assisting interested users. Among recent activities undertaken by this two-year-old group are wetlands mapping of the Bridgeport area for the statewide geographic coordinate data base. Another 1992 project involved mapping radio telemetry data from deer herds to track seasonal habitat distribution for the California Department of Fish and Game.

Furthermore, as GIS use has grown in BLM-California, it has also become a common ground for interagency coordination. In 1992, BLM worked closely with the Governor's Task Force on Geographic Information to chart strategies for expanding information sharing at all levels of government.

High-tech geography in the works



Mapping Sciences

If you need to know anything about a piece of land—its ownership, location, or geographic feature—BLM probably has a map to answer your questions.

In 1992, BLM-California continued to expand and modernize its mapping science program to make its products more useful to the public. Revising, reprinting, and automating the popular "100 K" maps (maps at 100,000 scale) are ongoing as is mapping support for resource management plans and wilderness. Also underway is a pilot project to computerize coordinates collected through global positioning system technology. Data gathered in this way will help high-tech mappers plot road easements surveyed in the California desert, a boon for off-highway vehicle programs.

Finally, outdoor enthusiasts can more easily track down recreation opportunities thanks to a brand-new *California Recreation 2000 Map*. This map and guide to BLM-designated recreation areas and facilities statewide is now available to the public from BLM offices.

Administration

Providing the best value for the public is the goal of BLM's modernization program. Automation continues to play a vital role in streamlining agency operations. Work progressed throughout 1992 on a high-tech computer system for verifying land and minerals records. This Automated Lands and Minerals Record System (ALMRS) will provide the public and BLM employees with rapid access to a wealth of public lands information. Public land survey information (township, range and section), land and minerals records all will be displayed graphically to depict location and automate master title plats.

In 1992, BLM-California also switched to a high tech telecommunications system, FTS 2000. This new network lets employees access information on systems stored throughout the nation. It also enables BLM to better respond to public requests, special issues, and geographic information.

Creating more accessible and customer-friendly offices statewide is ongoing. This year the El Centro Resource Area re-located to just such a model office. More efficient use of office space and shared resources in Sacramento was the result of a milestone interagency library agreement between BLM's California State Office and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) this year. Employees of both agencies can now go to one location for library materials managed by a joint BLM-FWS staff.

Surveys

Cadastral monument marks the spot.

Of all BLM's programs, the oldest—dating back to 1785—is the cadastral survey effort. Cadastral surveying is the process of defining legal land boundaries by establishing monuments on the ground and recording their location. These surveys are the legal basis for transferring public lands out of federal ownership. BLM-California's surveyors continue to introduce changes in their ancient art to take advantage of emerging technology. The equipment is certainly more modern and the techniques much more refined, but the goal remains the same—determining land ownership boundaries for the public lands.

Each year, BLM completes new surveys on areas never before surveyed and resurveys areas completed decades ago. Although some of this work may sound mundane, it is of critical importance to many public and private interests. This year the program produced 115 plats or maps, approved 9 mineral surveys and resurveyed 471 miles comprising 26,284 acres.

Highlights of the 1992 cadastral survey program include:

- ❑ Assisting the Yurok Native Americans to identify their reservation and ownership boundaries.
- ❑ Utilizing global positioning receivers to survey 45 miles of off-highway vehicle road easements for future recreation use.
- ❑ Assisting the Plumas National Forest to resolve a major trespass problem.
- ❑ Supporting the Mission Indians in San Diego County with boundary surveys to resolve and prevent trespass on tribal lands.
- ❑ Surveying portions of the Northern California coastal range to help law enforcement track down illegal pot gardens on public lands.

Fire Management

Most of California's public lands were very dry going into the summer of 1992, and early on BLM cranked up its firefighting power in anticipation of a busy season. BLM and other federal and state agencies set fire restrictions as early as May 15. Constant awareness and extensive pre-planning combined with BLM's hard-hitting "initial attack" philosophy held danger to a minimum.

Even so, BLM fire crews stayed busy on a number of big fires. The Moccasin Fire in a critical watershed west of Yosemite National Park burned a total of 8,000 acres, including 3,300 acres of BLM public lands. An even bigger blaze, the Old Gulch Fire, charred 17,955 acres in Calaveras County, among them 4,253 acres of public land.

In the 1992 fire season on California public lands, lightning sparked 125 fires burning 1,970 acres; another 17,965 acres of scorched earth resulted from 167 human-caused fires. Smoking ignited 16 of these blazes.

Most of BLM-California's fire control or suppression activities typically occur within the May 15-October 31 time frame. BLM district organizations initiate fire control actions. Through an extensive communication system, district fire dispatch offices coordinate the use of fire engines, hand line crews, helicopters, smoke jumpers, and retardant aircraft. High tech equipment like the automatic lighting detection system (ALDS), which senses and pinpoints strikes almost exactly, enable BLM fire managers to keep pace with Mother Nature by quickly dispatching crews and trucks to the vicinity.

Two BLM "hotshot crews" also help keep down the fire danger in California. These highly trained and experienced firefighters, based in Susanville and Bakersfield Districts, take part in first response suppression efforts and large fires in high risk areas in California. They also go to other states when needed.

An initial attack by the newly formed King Range Fire Crew and close coordination with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection led to rapid containment of a wildfire in the King Range Wilderness Study Area (WSA) on the North Coast. Efforts to control the blaze concentrated on the use of air tankers, helicopters, and hot shot crews.

Besides fighting wildfires on public lands, BLM uses prescribed fire to better manage range, wildlife habitat, forestry, and other resources. A total of 12 prescribed burns charred over 3,000 acres statewide in 1992. An example is the Deadhorse Prescribed Burn in northeastern California, which successfully

Law Enforcement

The "War on Drugs" isn't confined to major urban areas: the public lands, unfortunately, are the stage for significant illegal drug activity. In 1992, BLM special agents and rangers, working closely with local law enforcement agencies and the California National Guard, eradicated more than 16,250 illegal marijuana plants with a street value of about $55 million. Other seizures netted 37 pounds of methamphetamine with a street value of $263,000 and 1,554 pounds of cocaine valued at about $7 million.

BLM-California special agents made 27 arrests this year during 112 drug-related incidents. In Lake County, indictments were issued on two suspects (one of them a botanist) in a sophisticated marijuana garden located on BLM land. In Humboldt County indictments are pending after a three-month investigation resulted in the seizure of approximately $205,000 cash, 58 firearms, 1,700 pot plants, and an 80-acre parcel bordering the King Range National Conservation Area.

BLM's protection efforts also encompass cultural resources theft, hazardous material dumping and mistreatment of wild horses and burros. Local sheriffs' offices and the Campaign Against Marijuana Planting (CAMP) help BLM cover the 17 million acres under its jurisdiction in California. In 1992 BLM paid $251,000 for these services.

Typical marijuana leaf

blackened about 700 acres to improve forage for wildlife and livestock.

The innovative Wildland Firefighter Apprentice Program exemplifies BLM's commitment to future generations of firefighters. This program, pioneered by BLM with the help of the U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Indian Affairs, enables apprentices to go through 18 months of classroom and field training. This "win-win" program, now in its second year, creates a more diverse workforce of highly trained and experienced firefighters.

Preparing to take to the air for first-ever BLM fire rappelling training in the California desert

Air tankers lay a blanket of fire retardant during King Range blaze.

Hazardous Materials Management

Across the nation illegal dumps are costing time and money and leaving an ugly blot on the landscape. They also pose short and long-term risks to the public health and safety. Like any responsible land manager, BLM-California is increasingly concerned with how to safely manage and control hazardous materials illegally dumped on the public lands.

In 1992, BLM responded to over 40 "emergency responses" among them drug lab wastes, spilled chemicals and "midnight dumping." In addition, seven new sites on BLM lands were added to the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Federal facility list in 1992. Once a site is formally listed, BLM must either remove the hazardous material within 18 months or prepare a preliminary assessment analyzing potential public and environmental threats. To date, 43 BLM-California sites are on this EPA list. The program is expected to grow over the next several years as more sites are inventoried and listed. Furthermore, BLM works with EPA to manage major sites under its Superfund program and the State of California's own Superfund. Site remediation activities began at the Atlas Asbestos Mine Superfund site in 1992.

Finally, there are 150 known trespass dumps on BLM-California lands, which will require future cleanups. Six criminal investigations related to hazardous wastes on public lands were underway this year.

Public Outreach

Spreading the word about the tremendous opportunities for education and enjoyment on BLM-California managed public lands was a task pursued with vigor by BLM specialists and volunteers this year.

For example, an outdoor classroom at Owl Canyon Campground for fifth graders, wilderness study area hikes, and sponsorship of science fair awards for desert-related projects are all part of the exemplary outreach program in place in the Barstow Resource Area. In 1992 over 4,550 students and adults participated in these activities; another 50,000 people learned about BLM programs at the California Desert Information Center in Barstow.

Staff from the Vista Colorado Elementary School and Needles Resource Area cooperatively developed an ongoing award-winning environmental education curriculum stressing conservation principles and desert ecology. BLM specialists work with students in the classroom and in the field. Awards to date for this innovative spin-off of PROJECT WILD include Take Pride in California winner, national finalist in Take Pride in America, winner of BLM's Volunteers for the Public Lands national competition, and recognition by the Audubon Society's California Endangered Species Education Program.

Environmental education also worked its way into the popular Mojave Road Rendezvous in the East Mojave National Scenic Area (NSA) this year. The Needles Resource Area joined the Friends of the Mojave Road to host the four-day event, attracting more than 450 people. The "Friends" and BLM led over 40 different vehicle and hiking tours into the NSA. A sidebar to the outdoor events was a BLM-sponsored poster contest for sixth graders on the topic, "What the Desert Means to Me." Local businesses donated prizes for winners, and the contest proved so popular it will become an annual event.

Staff from BLM's Redding staff rolled down the Sacramento River with *San Francisco Chronicle* reporter Glen Martin. The journalist chronicled the river from Box Canyon in Siskiyou County to where it flows into the San Francisco Bay. On the Redding Resource Area's portion of the trip, the travelers spotted river otters, kingfishers, yellow-billed magpies, deer, bald eagles, and many other species. Armchair travelers, too, can experience Martin's journey in a reprint available from the newspaper.

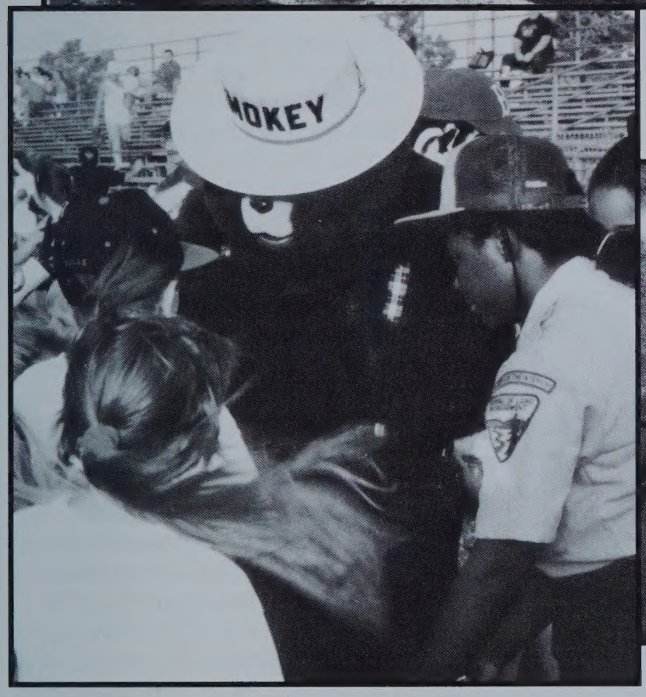
The new Interagency Visitor Information Center at BLM's California State Office in Sacramento provides recreation information on BLM lands, national parks and forests, by phone and to walk-in visitors. Staff supply brochures on BLM-California recreation programs, and furnish Golden Eagle, Golden Age, Golden Access and fire permits They also sell U.S. Geologic Survey topographic maps. Seniors in search of Golden Age passports are the top recreation customer at the center, closely followed by people seeking areas open to hunting on BLM and Forest Service lands.

Finally, dozens took advantage of the Bakersfield District's popular geologic field trips. The series this year included forays into the Mother Lode for a glimpse of some of the Golden State's unique geologic wonders and remnants of the romantic era of the '49'ers.

Environmental Ed has no borders

The El Centro Resource Area's popular "Day in the Desert" environmental awareness program for area fifth graders went international as 24 students from Mexicali (right below the border) joined El Centro youth on a field trip to the Yuha Desert. Members of Mexico's Ministry of Wildlife and Forestry and Ministry of Education came along as observers and translators since the Mexicali students spoke little English.

Dave "Big Bear" Johnson, spirited volunteer caretaker at the Squaw Leap Management Area in the Sierra foothills, patrols the 4,000-acre site near the San Joaquin River on horseback, organizes environmental education field days for local schools, helps visitors when they are lost or in need of information, and coordinates numerous volunteer projects with sports and environmental groups and is known to have a hot dinner ready for them at the end of a work day. Big Bear cares for Squaw Leap as his home and always treats the public as his welcome guest and friend.



Public awareness is the goal of BLM and other agencies-sponsored Smokey and the Sports.

Students from Modoc High School's natural resource academy gain hands-on experience in the field working with Alturas Resource Area staff on a habitat improvement project at Cedar Creek. BLM is heavily involved in this unique academy, which exposes students to resource management careers.

Volunteers

The 18 million acres of lands in California and Nevada managed by BLM-California belong to the public and we are fortunate that thousands take that ownership personally. In 1992 over 4,000 volunteers and hosted workers contributed more than 230,000 hours, valued at about $2.3 million, and costing BLM less than $117,000 to manage this important program.

Each voluntary effort is an individual or group story of pride in the public lands. Here are some of their 1992 highlights:

❤ Volunteers from the California Native Plant Society, University of California, Riverside, and others surveyed the Providence Mountains for rare plants. This high mountain range in the East Mojave National Scenic Area (NSA) contains diverse soil types producing habitat for rare plants.

❤ Sixty Girl Scouts and scout leaders from the Coachella Valley removed over one ton of trash and construction debris near Willis Palms at the Coachella Valley Fringe-toed Lizard Preserve on the outskirts of Palm Springs. The San Gorgonio Girl Scout Council sponsored the activity as part of the youth organization's 80th anniversary celebration, "Girl Scouts Care for the Earth."

❤ Two volunteers from the Student Conservation Association (SCA) performed field evaluations of known raptor eyries (nests) in the East Mojave NSA and surrounding mountains. BLM staff housed and supervised the young volunteers, who spent 10 weeks recording current eyrie use and changes in location from sightings recorded by others 12 years ago.

❤ "Taking Pride in America," 38 volunteers worked for three days to clean-up and repair three areas of public land, damaged by illegal motorcycle riding on the south side of Ridgecrest.

❤ For the third consecutive year, Ridgecrest Resource Area staff worked with volunteers during California State Trail Week to further hiking options. Volunteers spent four days mapping and signing a historic trail in the Inyo Mountains. Over the past three years, volunteers have conducted 16 projects to map, sign, and stabilize these trails.

❤ During spring 1992, volunteers from the recently formed

Hi Rock trekkers get the job done!

The seven-hour trip from the Sacramento area to High Rock Canyon in northwestern Nevada has not deterred members of the Cal 4-Wheel Drive Association from adopting the canyon for volunteer projects. In 1992, "Hi Rock Trekkers" constructed a juniper pole fence across the canyon as part of a seasonal raptor nesting closure, restored a visitor-use cabin and stabilized rock at a hazardous creek crossing.

Trout Unlimited Modoc/Alturas Chapter chalked up 200 hours helping Alturas Resource Area staff repair riparian protection fences along Fitzhugh Creek.

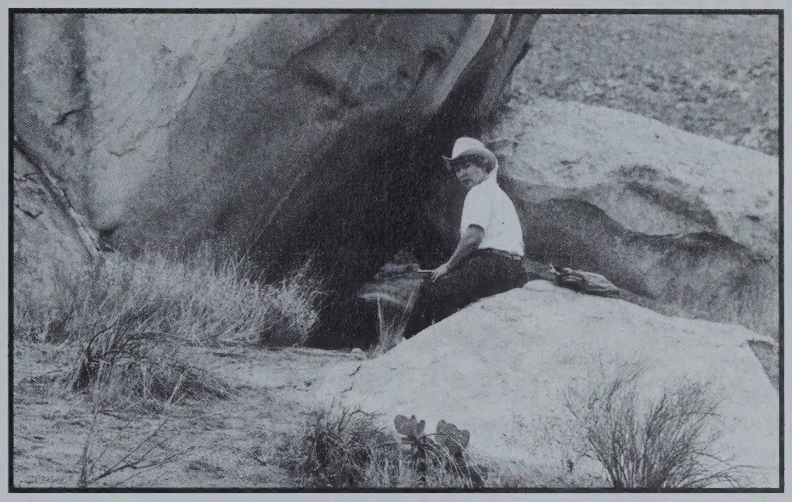
❤ Yuba Westgold and Western Aggregate, using employees and company equipment, logged 1,000 work hours and contributed over $30,000 to clean away some 300-400 cubic yards of junk from a public land site near Marysville in Yuba County.

Individual volunteers, too, donated time and talent to a variety of tasks to help BLM's cultural resources and other programs this year. Among these achievements were:

❤ David (Jack) Scott, a California State University, Bakersfield, graduate student, donated some 140 hours, recording 30 archaeological sites in the rugged Temblor Mountains of the southern San Joaquin Valley

❤ Gordon Grant of Ojai photographed world-famous rock art sites, among them Painted Rock in the Carrizo Plain Natural Area. Some of this rock art was made famous by Gordon's father, Campbell Grant, who originally photographed it years earlier. These father-son photographs will be compared to provide insight into the impacts of vandalism and erosion on rock art.

❤ Finally, a big "thumbs up" to Lakeport volunteer Kerry Morf, who was instrumental in the success of several BLM wild horse and burro satellite adoptions. Besides lending her support to the Earth Day satellite at Walnut Creek, Kerry organized post-adoption clinics to teach adopters to better care for their new animals.



Kathy Lamb spent several days recording a vandalized rock shelter in the Kelso Valley area of the Upper Kern River. The shelter contained Native American rock art, bedrock mortar, grinding slicks, and other evidence of early everyday life. Kathy's findings led to stepped-up patrols of this site by the Caliente Resource Area and others and increased coordination with Native Americans to further protect culture resources.

Volunteer herpetologist Ed Ely spent over 400 hours surveying and photographing streams and ponds throughout the Hollister Resource Area for nine rare animals. His final report documented survey routes with 100 professional-quality photographs.

Your Public Lands Balance Sheet

(Oct. 1, 1991 to September 30, 1992)

Funding

BLM-California received Congressionally appropriated funding increases in Fiscal Year 1992. Primary gains were in recreation and construction projects associated with the Presidential and Departmental Recreation 2000 initiative; wildlife and watershed protection projects for Legacy 99; and further expansion of the ranger law enforcement programs.

The California Off-Highway Motor Vehicle (OHV) Recreation Commission conferred grants of $4.2 million for recreation activities including operation, maintenance and improved management of OHV areas on public lands. The California Department of Fish and Game also contributed $108,000 for wildlife projects. Additionally, reimbursement to BLM-California for work done for others included $913,400 from other federal agencies for resource and survey work and $426,000 from rights-of-way applicants.

Funding Levels

(Figures in thousands of dollars)

	1990	1991	1992
Energy & Minerals Management	$4,460	$4,730	$5,140
Lands & Realty Management	2,030	2,360	2,820
Renewable Resources	14,000	21,650	29,270
Planning & Data Management	1,900	1,920	1,670
Cadastral Survey	1,490	1,500	1,690
Enforcement	2,020	2,670	2,920
General Administration & EEO	2,490	2,660	2,710
Maintenance	1,500	2,310	2,550
Acquisition & Construction	460	330	1,120
Range Improvements	230	330	290
Land & Water Conservation Fund	8,520	8,790	10,420
Total Management Budget	$39,100	$50,500	$60,600

Receipts

The public lands helped earn their way in 1992, generating about $42 million in revenues, about 87 percent of this from mineral leasing and revenues. Timber sales, rights-of-way rentals and land and material sales also added to the receipts. Rounding out the portfolio are fees paid by ranchers to graze their livestock on public lands and by recreationists to use special sites and hold events on these lands.

BLM-California Receipts

(Figures in thousands of dollars)

	1990	1991	1992
Mineral Leases & Permits	$45,040	$37,280	$37,015
Sales of Public Lands & Materials	1,140	785	466
Sales of Public Timber	2,125	918	1,512
Fees and Commissions	80	66	24
Recreation Use for Permit Areas, Concessions, and Fee Sites	360	352	368
Grazing Fees (Sections 3 & 15)	540	286	408
Rights-of-Way	1,740	1,746	2.065
Rent of Land	180	119	502
Total Receipts	$51,415	$44,176	$42,360

SHARES

Both the State of California and its counties receive substantial benefits from the public lands through revenue sharing and other direct payments.

The dominant source of revenue is the energy mineral leasing program. Fifty percent of all mineral leasing revenues go to the state treasury and can be used for any purpose. For geothermal energy receipts, about 40 percent of the State's 50 percent share of these funds goes directly to the county where the energy generation took place.

Grazing on public lands also produces revenue for state and county coffers. BLM pays these fees to the state, which then distributes percentages of grazing fees (ranging from 12.5 to 50 percent of the receipts) to the counties where the grazing takes place. San Bernardino County tops the list, followed by Kern, San Luis Obispo, Lassen, and Inyo counties. Finally, the state also receives a percentage of the sale of lands and materials like timber. These funds go for improvements to schools, roads and other programs to benefit Californians.

PAYMENT OF BLM RECEIPTS TO CALIFORNIA

(Figures in thousands of dollars)

Mineral Leases & Permits	$18,529
Grazing Receipts (Sections 3 & 15)	138
Sales of Public Land & Materials	62
Payments in Lieu of Taxes	10,195
Total	$28,924

Like any responsible landowner, the federal government helps pay for shared services in its counties of residence. In 1992, BLM paid $10,194,587 million to California counties through a program called Payments-in-Lieu-of-Taxes or PILT. PILT payments are based on a formula taking into account population, federal land acreage, and certain other federal payments received in the past year. Payments help offset loss of local revenue caused by certain tax-exempt federal land located within the counties and help local governments provide vital services like fire and police protection, search and rescue operations and road construction. They are especially beneficial to sparsely populated counties that contain large acreages of tax-exempt federal lands. Federal land entitlement acreage includes BLM public lands, national forests, national parks, national wildlife refuges, federal water projects, Army Corps of Engineers dredge disposal sites, inactive and semi-active Army installations, and donated lands. BLM administers the PILT program because it is the largest single federal land management agency. (PILT per county can be found on p. 38)

PAYMENTS-IN-LIEU OF TAXES

County	Entitlement Acres	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92
Alameda	2,420	1,829	1,815	2,815
Alpine	416,417	41,025	49,652	50,010
Amador	87,276	8,764	8,764	8,728
Butte	152,602	5,066	15,066	15,260
Calaveras	140,665	14,230	14,230	14,067
Colusa	102,504	10,255	10,251	10,251
Contra Costa	2,562	1,950	1,922	1,922
Del Norte	461,286	46,212	46,212	46,201
El Dorado	202,795	188,250	207,755	158,451
Fresno	470,262	149,888	150,167	150,682
Glenn	202,795	20,712	20,711	20,388
Humboldt	470,262	1,581,201	81,208	1,581,196
Imperial	1,287,962	693,838	459,703	391,393
Inyo	5,493,836	513,311	513,311	513,000
Kern	1,111,764	662,568	647,103	699,370
Kings	10,987	6,545	6,173	6,468
Lake	383,329	38,134	38,177	38,333
Lassen	1,638,936	164,444	164,444	163,894
Los Angeles	681,332	509,123	424,232	374,179
Madera	505,820	50,258	50,258	50,582
Marin	76,962	71,383	71,350	70,894
Mariposa	513,554	52,094	52,095	51,502
Mendocino	298,862	29,530	29,535	29,985
Merced	41,209	30,338	30,219	30,238
Modoc	1,695,794	69,563	169,579	169,579
Mono	1,751,917	170,673	175,170	175,192
Monterey	371,577	275,386	222,198	264,390
Napa	61,104	45,673	45,647	21,291
Nevada	197,469	19,635	19,635	19,474
Orange	54,655	32,722	30,443	5,466
Placer	367,263	73,934	79,886	76,939
Plumas	1,167,702	115,616	115,371	116,770
Riverside	2,390,625	966,329	9,993,473	973,680
Sacramento	5,631	4,121	4,121	4,223
San Benito	117,828	88,651	87,443	78,865
San Bernardino	7,703,674	769,741	68,993	770,367
San Diego	464,747	313,075	285,784	311,680
San Francisco	2,286	3,091	3,091	1,715
San Joaquin	2,156	1,615	1,617	1,617
San Luis Obispo	426,538	280,898	289,670	306,167
San Mateo	1,343	1,010	1,010	1,007
Santa Barbara	713,373	562,497	563,632	566,229
Santa Clara	5,182	4,240	3,678	3,696
Santa Cruz	12	0	9	0
Shasta	974,591	97,132	97,513	97,677
Sierra	431,223	43,074	43,074	43,122
Siskiyou	2,580,997	256,759	256,780	260,385
Solano	5,213	4,491	4,486	3,910
Sonoma	23,924	2,392	2,392	2,392
Stanislaus	6,443	4,635	4,662	4,687
Sutter	2	0	5	0
Tehama	445,693	44,514	44,514	44,569
Trinity	1,528,269	160,858	160,232	158,232
Tulare	1,525,799	632,257	580,296	687,870
Tuolumne	1,091,693	109,057	109,057	109,169
Ventura	574,956	406,731	407,397	408,914
Yolo	28,607	21,322	21,294	21,300
Yuba	49,310	4,911	4,911	4,931
Totals	**42,787,768**	**$10,602,732**	**$10,191,402**	**$10,194,587**

CULTURAL RESOURCES

	1990	1991	1992
Inventory (1,000/acres)	21	38	37
Major Protection/Stabilization Projects	32	73	52
Permits	27	24	26

FISH & WILDLIFE HABITAT MANAGEMENT

	1990	1991	1992
Acres of Wildlife Habitat Inventoried	880,000	1,470	600,000
Acres of Wildlife Habitat Improved	137,000	80,000	50,000
Acres of Wildlife Habitat Maintained	51,000	118,000	117,000
Miles of Stream Habitat Improved	8	6	5
Miles of Stream Habitat Maintained	1	5	10
New HMPs Prepared & Revised	11	6	12

FORESTRY MANAGEMENT

	1990	1991	1992
Timber Offered (million board feet)	8.8	10.4	8.6
Timber Receipts (million $$s)	$1.1	$1.9	$2.0
Fuelwood Sold (cords)	1,425	1,228	841
Fuelwood Receipts	$14,620	$13,000	$7,132
Reforestation (acres)	635	420	259
Land Treatment (acres)	495	271	61
Timber Stand Improvement (acres)	256	380	245
Pest Control (acres)	231	64	103

RANGELANDS MANAGEMENT

	1990	1991	1992
Grazing Permits Issued	896	721	1,024
Animal Unit Months Authorized (1,000s)	300.4	235.1	277.8
Allotment Management Plans (AMPs) Implemented	12	7	0
Range Improvement Projects Developed			
Water Facilities	15	20	18
Vegetation Treatment Projects (1,000 acres)	6	5	7

RECREATION

	1990	1991	1992
Recreation Visits (millions)	26.5	25.6	26
Special Recreation Permits Issued	1,125	1,533	1,751
Receipts from Permits	$225,569	$351,931	$368,049

RIGHTS OF WAY

	1990	1991	1992
Grants Issued	181	139	167
Applications Processed	467	192	206

SOIL, AIR, & WATER RESOURCES

	1990	1991	1992
Soil, Air & Water Inventory	-	1,000	63,000
Soil Surveys (acres)	72,000	24,000	16,000
Water Rights Documentation	123	245	51
Watershed Project Maintenance	0	0	21
Watershed Improvements	22	20	22
Watershed Monitoring Sites	122	149	137
Air Monitoring Stations	0	1	2

WILD HORSE & BURRO MANAGEMENT

	1990	1991	1992
Excess Animals Removed from Public Lands	306	318	452
Excess Animals Removed from Military/Forest Service Lands	334	567	342
Animals Adopted	422	616	766
Titles Issued	393	300	382

GEOTHERMAL LEASING

	1990	1991	1992
Federal Production (megawatts)	928	959	948
Total Number of Leases	206	142	118
Competitive Leases Issued/Extended	1	22	8
Noncompetitive Leases Issued/Extended	3	1	9
Producing Leases	20	21	21
Producing Wells	237	252	252
Plans of Operation Approved	4	1	1
Drilling Permits Issued	43	19	23
Site Inspections Conducted	425	380	280
Total Revenue (millions)	$16.6	$15.4	$15.1

MINERAL MATERIALS

	1990	1991	1992
Sales & Free-Use Permits Processed	186	219	175
Community Pits Established	0	0	1
Trespass Cases Processed	8	11	14
Inspections (I&E/PV)	-	84	199

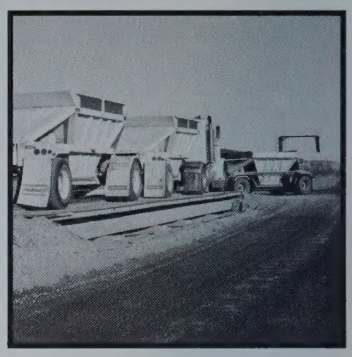
1872 MINING LAW MINERALS

	1990	1991	1992
Plans of Operations Reviewed	71	84	59
Notices Reviewed	126	90	87
Mineral Patent Applications Processed	14	27	5
Mining Claims Recorded	8,577	8,200	9,000
Annual Assessment Filings	86,939	87,787	82,000

OIL & GAS OPERATIONS

	1990	1991	1992
Leases Issued	72	2	37
Assignments	168	98	77
Permits to Drill Processed	130	230	155

SOLID LEASABLE MINERALS

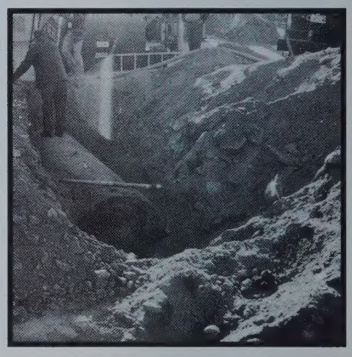


	1990	1991	1992
Lease Applications Processed	3	4	4
Prospecting Permits Processed	4	5	4
Inspections & Compliance Checks Conducted	160	149	215
Exploration & Mining Plans Processed	6	11	5
Mineral Reports Completed	4	5	4

FIRE MANAGEMENT

	1990	1991	1992
Number of Wildfires	234	211	292
Acres Burned	32,726	1,163	19,935
Prescribed Burns (number)	13	8	12
Prescribed Burns (acres)	13,190	1,945	3,102
Number of Assists to Other Agencies	156	115	256

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS MANAGEMENT

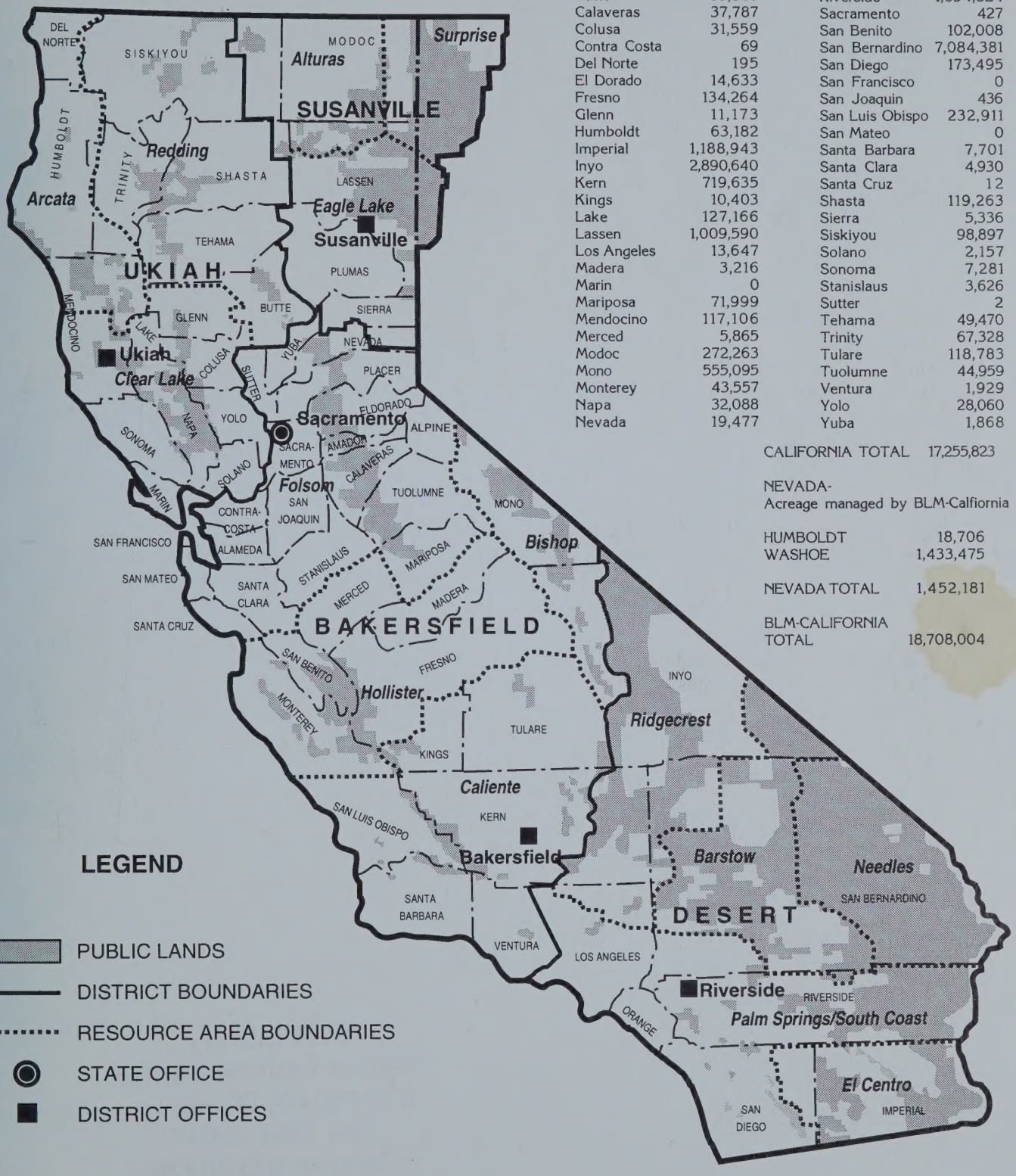


	1990	1991	1992
Emergency Responses Required	30	32	40
New Hazardous Waste Sites Identified	9	11	7
Superfund Sites on Public Lands (cumulative)	1	1	1

United States
Department of the Interior

Bureau of Land Management

California BLM Jurisdictions



LEGEND

- PUBLIC LANDS
- DISTRICT BOUNDARIES
- RESOURCE AREA BOUNDARIES
- STATE OFFICE
- DISTRICT OFFICES

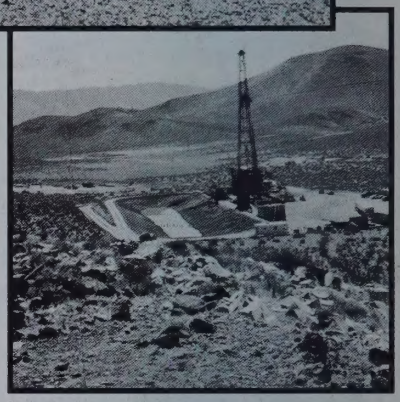
BLM-CALIFORNIA PUBLIC LAND ACREAGES

County	Acreage	County	Acreage
Alameda	217	Orange	1
Alpine	12,808	Placer	20,568
Amador	9,191	Plumas	10,486
Butte	18,916	Riverside	1,654,824
Calaveras	37,787	Sacramento	427
Colusa	31,559	San Benito	102,008
Contra Costa	69	San Bernardino	7,084,381
Del Norte	195	San Diego	173,495
El Dorado	14,633	San Francisco	0
Fresno	134,264	San Joaquin	436
Glenn	11,173	San Luis Obispo	232,911
Humboldt	63,182	San Mateo	0
Imperial	1,188,943	Santa Barbara	7,701
Inyo	2,890,640	Santa Clara	4,930
Kern	719,635	Santa Cruz	12
Kings	10,403	Shasta	119,263
Lake	127,166	Sierra	5,336
Lassen	1,009,590	Siskiyou	98,897
Los Angeles	13,647	Solano	2,157
Madera	3,216	Sonoma	7,281
Marin	0	Stanislaus	3,626
Mariposa	71,999	Sutter	2
Mendocino	117,106	Tehama	49,470
Merced	5,865	Trinity	67,328
Modoc	272,263	Tulare	118,783
Mono	555,095	Tuolumne	44,959
Monterey	43,557	Ventura	1,929
Napa	32,088	Yolo	28,060
Nevada	19,477	Yuba	1,868

CALIFORNIA TOTAL	17,255,823
NEVADA- Acreage managed by BLM-Calfiornia	
HUMBOLDT	18,706
WASHOE	1,433,475
NEVADA TOTAL	1,452,181
BLM-CALIFORNIA TOTAL	18,708,004

Your Public Lands:

* 800 wildlife species
* 796,000 ounces of gold
* 230,000 volunteer hours
* $42 million in revenues
* 117 Areas of Critical Environmental Concern
* 58,000 cattle; 89,000 sheep
* 17 million barrels of oil
* 209 wilderness study areas
* $10 million paid to counties
* 2,500 wild horses; 2,400 wild burros
* 949 megawatts of geothermal power
* 8.5 million board feet of timber
* 26 million recreation visits



Clockwise from upper right: Yuha Desert in Imperial County; Hayden Hill Gold Mine, Lassen County; Eastern Sierra; Walnut Creek Wild Horse & Burro adoption;Mountain biking near Ridgecrest;Take Pride in California winners for Vista Colorado Elementary School and BLM's Needles Resource Area; sheep grazing in the California desert

BLM/CA/GI-93-006-1222

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BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
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